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MK NEWS

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SEE **LEISURE FROM PAGE 35**

IF is back with surprises galore

SEE **PAGES 16&17**

ON THE MOVE? Get all the news from www.mkweb.co.uk on your phone

NATIONAL Chip Week starts on Monday and to celebrate we are asking readers to vote for their favourite chippy. Go to www.mkweb.co.uk and pages 26&27 for more details

Tucking in: Scott Kirk and Eleanor Butler

All change in CMK?

BY JAMES AVERILL

james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

PLANS to pedestrianise Midsummer Boulevard could change the landscape of our city centre forever.

A recent meeting organised by Milton Keynes Council and Central Milton Keynes Town Council brought developers, council officials and residential and pressure groups together to discuss a blueprint for the future of land surrounding the boulevard.

At the fiery three-day workshop, which began on Friday, it is understood plans were put forward to pedestrianise either part of the boulevard, or the whole of it from Midsummer Place up to Campbell Park, which would create a promenade for walkers.

Should the latter option be taken it would mean the loss of the dual carriageway.

It is expected that any change would also affect bus services currently using the busy grid road – though the workshop did reach an agreement to explore the option of building a bus interchange off Secklow Gate, opposite the Food Centre.

But confusion remains over exactly what the groups had voted for in the workshop due to 'poor wording', which along with a recently held public consultation, will help form the future vision and proposals for the city centre.

Some groups expressed concern they may have voted for a scheme that they didn't approve of.

Theo Chalmers, of Urban Eden, believes he was told at the meeting that the whole boulevard would be pedestrianised.

He told MK NEWS: "Pedestrianising it would be cutting a vital link to the city and once you lose that link you've lost it forever. If you make it into some Las Ramblas then people will vote with their feet."

Linda Inoki, of pressure group Xplain, added: "There was confusion late on Monday about exactly what we'd voted on and how far the boulevard would be pedestrianised. Full pedestrianisation could kill it off and create problems elsewhere."

MK Council has said that 'no final decision has been taken' and another workshop will be held within two months for groups to 'make their views known'.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

DO YOU WANT TO SEE MIDSUMMER BOULEVARD PEDESTRIANISED?

Vote in the poll on our website

www.mkweb.co.uk

Double wage to keep up with inflation

PEOPLE need an extra £34,000 a year in wages just to keep up with house price inflation, according to research by Shelter.

The housing charity says the majority of people on average wages in Milton Keynes and the South East would need to more than double their annual salary to keep up with house prices.

Shelter looked at wage and house price inflation since 1997 and worked out what average annual earnings would be if they had risen at the same rate as house prices.

The impact of the housing shortage has been widespread, with the latest census showing a seven per cent drop in home owners in the South East.

"This is more evidence of the cost of living crisis affecting families as prices continue to outstrip wages," said Andrew Pakes, Labour and Co-operative Parliamentary Candidate for Milton Keynes.

"The pioneering spirit of Milton Keynes was about allowing families to get a hold on the property ladder but this dream is slipping further away from many people, particularly young couples."

The charity is warning that if house prices are left to rise further this will not only price out future generations, it will make things harder for thousands of families already struggling to keep up with housing costs each month.

Campbell Robb, Shelter's chief executive, said: "When you need to more than double your salary just to keep up with rising house prices, it is no surprise that the dream of a home of their own is slipping further out of reach for a generation."

£525,000 to support kids after crash

THE family of a motorcyclist who was killed in a road accident will receive £525,000 in damages from a school governor who caused the crash.

Timothy Thomas, 70, a governor at Oakgrove School, pulled his people carrier out of the junction of a busy road in front of father-of-four Jamie Lloyd, aged 41, in April 2012.

The claim is for the benefit of Jamie's Middleton-based family – wife Lisa and children Abbie, 15, Jack, 12, Lewis, five, and Madison, three.

The claim says the car pulled out of Pattison Lane and gave Mr Lloyd no time to react. The High Court documents say the father never regained consciousness following the crash and died shortly afterwards.

Mr Thomas, of Woolstone, pleaded guilty to causing death by careless driving at Aylesbury Crown Court on February 5, 2013, receiving a community order and a two-year driving ban for the offence.

The settlement was agreed in principle in October 2013 on the basis that Mr Thomas accepts full liability.

Anger after MOT failure

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

A SOCIAL media storm has erupted after a woman posted an angry comment on a networking site about her husband's experience at an MOT centre.

Lisa Smith from Broughton posted her complaint about Fast Fit Station in Kingston on Facebook after her husband Ross took his Smart car to the centre. It didn't pass its MOT after failing the emissions test, which he was told may indicate a leak in the exhaust system.

Mrs Smith's comment said: "Ross took his car for an MOT to Fast Fit in Kingston. The dreaded news came that not only had it failed its MOT, but there was a hole in the exhaust which meant a whole new one for £600! Trying to look at alternate ways to do this cheaper he contacted his mechanic friend who kindly offered to take his car to his mate's garage who could run the MOT again. Guess what, no hole in the exhaust, nothing wrong with the car and it passed with flying colours. How many other people have they done this to?"

Since the comment was posted on Friday it has been shared more than 4,000 times and received 58 comments and Mrs Smith says she has been inundated with direct messages and emails.

She has made an official complaint to the centre – but only after posting the comment on Facebook. Fast Fit has tried to respond by posting a response on Mrs Smith's page, but has been prevented from doing so. She also said she would not remove the comments.

The centre, which only dealt with Mr Smith, is sticking by the results of the emissions test, denying it has fabricated it, and says it suggested alternative ways the problem could be fixed.

It has also stressed it has not made any money from the people who have complained on Facebook as the work on their vehicles was never carried out.

They include Andy Watt from Bletchley, who left a comment saying: "They tried to rip me off by saying a run flat with a puncture couldn't be repaired and that I needed a new tyre."

In an email to Mrs Smith, operations manager, Graham Barker, said: "I looked through the various comments. Most of them, like yours, have a perfectly logical and reasonable explanation. For example, someone complained about us being unwilling to repair a puncture on a run flat tyre. Most tyre manufacturers publicly recommend run flat tyres are not repaired, although you can probably find someone (that doesn't deal directly with the manufacturers) that will carry out a repair. In this instance, and your own, people are complaining about work that they haven't had completed!"

MK NEWS contacted Fast Fit several times, but it refused to comment.

See Pippa and Emma in action on our website: www.mkweb.co.uk

Just hanging around: Pole fitness and dance teacher Pippa Loveridge has got an award

Award for pole fitness instructor

A POLE fitness and dance teacher has received an award for her work at a world championships.

Pippa Loveridge is director and advanced pole fitness instructor at Polenastics Ltd based in Newport Pagnell.

She has taught more than 5,000 students and in 2011 she opened the first pole dance studio in Milton Keynes, which already has more than 1,500 students.

At the World Pole Fitness and Dance Championships 2014, Pippa was made an international ambassador for the pole fitness and dance community.

She said: "I had no idea I was going to be given the award on stage at the championships and it was an absolute honour.

"I received the award because people that know me and have been taught by me voted and said why I deserve it."

Pippa has also praised 'larger lady' internet sensation Emma Haslam, 27, from Linconshire, who posted a YouTube video of her first pole competition routine to prove size doesn't matter.

The video has had more than 130,000 views.

Hellish: Gemma Simpkins in the garden she can no longer use due to objects being hurled over

'Neighbours are making life hell'

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

A YOUNG mother says her family's life is being made 'hell' by their neighbours.

Gemma Simpkins, 25, claims the people living in the council house next door have been throwing over huge amounts of rubbish since June last year – and she is fed up with the lack of help from Milton Keynes Council.

She's furious that her children Freya, five, and four-month-old Oliver, can't go into the garden to play in the wendy house bought by their late grandfather.

It is surrounded by used nappies, empty bottles, burnt kids toys and even a chair that has been lobbed from the other side by a woman.

Stricken Gemma, of Whaddon Way, Bletchley, told MK NEWS: "They are the neighbours from hell.

"We can't go outdoors in case a bucket of urine is thrown over.

"The council and police have been over here countless times, but apart from putting some netting up they haven't done anything for ages. It's not just our house, the other side get the rubbish thrown in as well."

A spokesman for Milton Keynes Council said: "This garden has already been cleared twice previously and we're going out there again today [Tuesday].

"We have identified a solution to the problem and are working hard to put this in place as soon as possible."

When MK NEWS spoke to the neighbours they blamed the previous residents, though Gemma claims they have lived there for at least five years.

A Thames Valley Police spokesman said although they had three reports of anti-social behaviour at the address, the last in October, Mrs Simpkins had not made an official complaint.

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Fear for welfare

THE A5 in Central Milton Keynes was closed on Sunday morning after police became concerned about a member of the public. Officers were worried for the person's wellbeing and motorists were told to avoid the area until 10.40am.

Stuart Hall dies

LEADING sociologist Stuart Hall has passed away aged 82. Mr Hall taught at Milton Keynes Open University from 1979 to 1997 and coined the term Thatcherism.

MK1 parking award

THE MK1 Shopping Centre car park, designed by Crown Estates, has received a Park Mark Safer Parking Award from the Association of Chief Police Officers and the British Parking Association. To win the honour a facility must meet several criteria.

'I punched Joe in self defence'

A TRIAL into the death of Joe Kent has heard from the two defendants for the first time.

Samir Bostan, 26, of Middleton, pleads not guilty to Joe's manslaughter after punching him outside Xscape last January.

Joe, 24, died after the impact caused an artery to tear.

The popular musician and tattoo artist had been celebrating his wife Emma's birthday before the altercation outside KFC.

But Mr Bostan, and his cousin Hamza Noor, 24, who is also on trial for assaulting Joe's friend, said they were acting in self defence.

Mr Bostan told Luton Crown Court on Monday: "If I didn't hit him [Joe] he was going to strike me as far as I was concerned. I hit him to move him back and he fell down."

The trial continues.

For all the latest updates
Visit www.mkweb.co.uk

Bad health care in custody

PEOPLE held in police custody are well cared for, but health services need to be improved.

That is according to Nick Hardwick, chief inspector of prisons, and Dru Sharpling, HM inspector of constabulary.

Their conclusions are from a surprise inspection of nine custody suites in the Thames Valley area, including MK.

They said: "The care of detainees in Thames Valley was good. However, health services provision was some of the worst."

The report comes before the opening of a new custody suite at MK police station on February 26.

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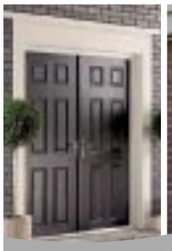

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Cloudy2Clear service the Bedford, Milton Keynes & Leighton Buzzard areas and Billy is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

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Are obese stats right?

REGARDING the story about obesity figures for Milton Keynes that was published on MKWeb.

I would really like to know how they came up with that percentage figure [72.5 per cent] for our city. What sampling did they use.

Although I can see there's a problem, I don't believe I see that number of people around me who are obese.

Brian Barlow
Comment from Facebook

Get out of your cars

PERSONALLY I would have to wonder if this has anything to do with the transport policy and the fact that car driving is promoted so much and the bus services are so poor and expensive due to cutbacks to them.

At least if people use a bus then they have to walk to the bus stop. Walking and cycling could also be an option.

Pete Simpson
Comment from Facebook

For more on this story, turn to page 18

Thank you for article

I WISH to thank MK NEWS for your piece on our project in last week's paper (*Research into war heroes in Great Linford*).

I have had three responses from relatives of four of the soldiers engraved on the memorial. Each relative has agreed for us to copy information they hold for our booklet.

BBC Three Counties Radio contacted me following the article on your website, inviting me to a slot on the Nick Coffer Show to be interviewed about our project on Friday. I accepted the invitation.

During the interview I mentioned the responses I had from a local newspaper. Mistakenly I mentioned the alternative Milton Keynes Citizen instead of giving credit to MK NEWS and was only aware of this when I replayed the interview on the i-player when I returned home.

I feel embarrassed about this error and wish to apologise to you.

David Kent
Sent via email

On the buses too late

SHAME on the Fib-Dems for cynically trying to 'jump on the bandwagon' over improvements to the Number 18 bus service (*Simpson residents plea for better bus service in Milton Keynes MKWeb, February 4*).

Where were the Lib-Dems when local Conservatives were meeting with the three parish councils, consulting with local residents, working with the bus operators to agree an improved timetable and lobbying the council to put an improved service into the budget proposals?

They were no-where to be seen. But now that the problem has been solved by the parish councils and MK Conservatives, the Lib-Dems suddenly appear, calling for the solution that others have been working for.

And no doubt shortly we will see their leaflets implying that they alone made it happen, when actually they had nothing to do with it.

If other parties are serious about this, they'll support the Conservatives' budget proposals for next year. Let's wait and see if they really want this better bus service, or is that just another fib?

Councillor John Bint
MK Conservatives

Parking is 'abysmal'

I CAN understand the worries of Two Mile Ash (TMA) residents over the proposed school expansion and resulting congestion (*Residents voice traffic concerns, MK NEWS, January 22*).

We have a very similar problem in Great Holm when twice a day Kensington Drive and Petworth become no go areas due to the school run.

Recently extra parking restrictions were introduced in the High Street on TMA so now parents from the school have taken to parking in Kensington Drive, totally ignoring the double yellow lines and adding to the congestion before walking across the bridge to TMA.

The standard of driving and parking during these periods is abysmal and in my opinion it is only a matter of time before there is a serious accident.

Unfortunately the authorities seem to be reluctant to take what will eventually be the necessary steps to address this problem.

Name and address supplied

Where will pupils go?

I CAME to Milton Keynes from Watford to raise my young family and was full of cynicism towards the 'New Town' of concrete cows and endless roundabouts.

I have now become the town's number one fan, loving the whole social and cultural make up and the obvious desire to build an environment that bonds the community.

The town is growing because it is a great example of how a New Town should be. Of course it is not perfect, but planners do appear to be constantly learning from the real life dynamics.

If the existing schools do not expand to take up the extra demand where will the children go? Squeezing more into the existing infrastructure creates crowded classes, reducing teaching excellence for all.

Facing the increase in demand with improved school infrastructure on existing sites makes sense as a short-term tactical fix.

Of course, longer term it is right to plan and build new schools in the designated expansion areas. Until this happens, it is right to increase 'outstanding' schools' capacity to cater for the demand.

It is a well-known fact that anyone living near a school will have school run congestion. We can all sympathise with that.

Travelling into town at peak times is congested. When travelling on the trains to London, there is congestion. I too am impacted by these congestions.

However the benefits I see for families like mine, living in Milton Keynes outweigh this. My three children have passed through Holmwood School, Two Mile Ash School and Denbigh School, all of which are of the highest standard and require expansion.

Outstanding education in a community creates an outstanding community. It feels right to extend this excellence to others. Please do not allow the school run congestion in itself be the reason to oppose the expansion of these schools.

I was saddened to see a social media attack against the expansion. Debate isn't achieved in closed groups only hearing their own voices. Teachers, school workers and parents dropping off their children are not an enemy to conquer. They are very productive and active members of our community.

The silent majority are quietly getting on with their lives. Let's not mistake volume of noise from a minority as an indicator of good or bad policy for Milton Keynes or for individual estates such as Two Mile Ash.

There is definitely a need for continuous questioning and review of ideas and decisions affecting our community at all levels – from a street to an estate to a town and beyond. But let us conduct this as an inclusive community in a civil manner that makes us proud.

Stephen Fulton
Sent via email

Jon Brett's City Life

His column written exclusively for MK NEWS

MILTON Keynes is many things, but romantic isn't one of them.

Tired around the edges, and in need of tender love and care, this isn't a place people think to visit for a quiet weekend getaway. It just isn't.

With St Valentine's Day just two days away, we In the City Life office put our heads together to try and think of anything romantic about Milton Keynes. And now our heads hurt!

Grid roads and roundabouts, chain restaurants with formulaic menus, Willen Lake and Netherfield – even Cupid himself would struggle to get in the mood in this bleak part of North Buckinghamshire!

At a push, I suppose a day 'on the slopes', imagining scenic views across snow-capped mountain peaks while sipping mulled wine might do it, until you realise you're actually sat inside a giant tin can opposite a shopping centre.

I suppose at the end of the day, Milton Keynes is as romantic as you make it. A walk in the rain along a Redway beside the V8 can be very romantic, if you're with the right person.

Eating a set menu in a cloned restaurant at the early 70s inspired Hub could equal a punt through the canals of Venice, if the moment is right. Not everyone can afford weekends away and red roses, especially around the time of February 14.

And so the moral of the tale is, it's not where you spend your St Valentine's Day that's important, it's all about who you spend it with.

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Planning ahead: John O'Donnell, headteacher of The Radcliffe School, at the site of the extension

School expansion approved

A SCHOOL expansion which is set to involve a new indoor sports centre has been approved.

MK NEWS revealed in September that The Radcliffe School, in Wolverton, was planning the development following the £9million sale of surrounding land in 2003. The proposal, which also includes a new sixth form centre, media centre, dining hall extension and car parking places, was approved by Milton Keynes Council's development control committee on Thursday.

And while not forming part of this application, the school also hopes to build a BMX track in the grounds.

Headteacher John O'Donnell said: "We're thrilled to bits. The main school building is about 60 years old and the curriculum has moved on significantly in that time. It is great to see this come closer to reality."

Centre's future is still in doubt

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

A QUESTION mark still hangs over the future of a theatre and arts centre following a tense meeting to discuss what should happen to it.

Trustees from Creed Street Theatre and Arts Centre in Wolverton agreed with residents that it must be kept open at the meeting on Thursday, which was attended by more than 50 people.

However it was revealed they have already had the building valued and residents left feeling concerned about its future.

Mike Galloway, lead member of campaign group Creed Street Friends, said: "It was clear from the meeting that issues are far from resolved."

As previously reported by MK NEWS, worries about the centre first arose in October last year following rumours about it being in debt. Some classes were then stopped and the building was closed in December.

At the meeting it emerged the centre is £40,000 in debt and needs £5,000 in order to reopen. Ideas were discussed, including introducing a new board of trustees and trying to improve paid membership.

Wolverton and Greenleys Town Council has stepped in to try and save the centre, but at the meeting requested more time to come up with a business plan.

The trustees, who were criticised by some at the meeting, said: "We are extremely saddened by the current situation and we are trying to salvage what we can from it."

Share your views on this: www.mkweb.co.uk

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Story correction

FOLLOWING MK NEWS' story last week about a fire in a Newport Pagnell warehouse, we would like to clarify that councillor Douglas McCall is the leader of the Liberal Democrats and not a Labour councillor. We apologise for any confusion caused.

Valentine's poems

ON FRIDAY the MK Rose in Campbell Park will blossom with romantic thoughts for Valentine's Day. The pillars will be covered with poems and quotes and Milton Keynes' Poet Laureate, Mark Niel, will be on hand for inspiration. He will also be performing at 11am, 1pm and 3pm.

'Lose web page or go to jail'

A ROGUE web designer who conducted an obsessive 'cyber-stalking' campaign against former work colleagues on the internet has been ordered to remove the material – or go to jail.

Irena Ponomareva, who is in her early 40s, called one former workmate a 'pimp' and sniped about another woman's sex life in the five year campaign after she lost her job with MK-based SunGard Systems Ltd in 2008.

High Court judge Griffith Williams said she will be jailed for three months if the material is still on the web and Facebook by tomorrow.

NHS to share patient data

A RESIDENT has voiced concerns over new patient information being collected by the NHS.

Patients' postcodes, dates of birth and NHS numbers will be recorded and shared with other health and social care services from late spring. Sarah Ogintas, 45, from Bradville said: "I am concerned about whether people know and who can view these details."

A NHS spokesman said: "The information shared is controlled by law and confidentiality rules."

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‘Graveyard not fit for animals’

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

Underwater: Grave of Richard Whelan is flooded on Sunday

A FLOODED cemetery that council bosses pledged to fix is still underwater – with one resident saying it isn’t even ‘fit for animals’ to be buried there.

The graveyard in Selbourne Avenue, Bletchley, is heavily waterlogged again, despite Milton Keynes Council promising in June 2013 to invest approximately £50,000 in drainage at the soggy site.

But eight months on relatives of people buried there remain angry at what they feel are broken promises to fix the problem.

Bernadette Morgan, aged 40, of Bletchley, visits the grave of her father Richard Whelan, who died aged 74 in February 2013 from Alzheimer’s.

She told MK NEWS: “I used to visit the grave every week but now it is too upsetting to go there.

“It’s not even fit for animals to be buried in.”

Denbigh Labour councillor Mick Legg believes the situation is ‘a disgrace’ and called on the council to apologise.

Cabinet member responsible for the site, Cllr Peter Geary, said that work would now cost over £100,000, adding: “I will apologise for any mistakes that the council has made in the past. We’ll work to resolve this permanently.”

Left: The water on Bletchley Manor Fields used by the area’s rugby and football teams

Below: The water surrounding the new changing rooms at Bletchley Manor Fields which were flooded on Friday

Rugby changing rooms flooded

CHANGING rooms that are being refurbished have been flooded – and the damage will cost thousands to repair.

The Bletchley Manor Fields changing rooms, *pictured right*, are undergoing a £150,000 revamp.

But now Bletchley Rugby Club will have to pay an extra £3,000-£10,000 to repair the damage caused by the flooding on Friday.

Club chairman Chris Goodman said: “There were 10-12 inches of water throughout the building and all the new doors were damaged. We will need to use special materials in case it floods again.”

Flooding has also affected many other areas in Milton Keynes.

Firefighters were called to a house in Mill Road, Bletchley, on Friday after floodwater reached the property.

On Saturday the Environment Agency put flood warnings in place for certain streets in Olney and Newport Pagnell, as well as properties between Simpson and Woolstone, including Monkston Park. The warnings have since been downgraded to alerts.

Some roads remained closed yesterday, including Riverside and Little Linford Lane in Newport Pagnell and Wadesmill Lane in Walnut Tree.

Police and the fire service are advising people to pay attention to road signs and not drive through flood water.

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Burglars strike for 27th time

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

MK NEWS and MKWeb have reported almost 30 burglaries since the start of 2014.

In total 27 such crimes, including attempted burglaries, have been reported by us in just six weeks.

Patrols were increased in Oldbrook this week after five burglars forced their way into a house in The Boundary at 9pm on Thursday.

The men, who were all wearing dark clothing and had their faces covered with scarves, stole Asian jewellery and a large sum of cash.

The occupiers – a man and a woman in their 50s – were at home when the burglary took place.

The 54-year-old man suffered shock and chest pains and required treatment at Milton Keynes Hospital.

Detective Inspector Suzette Allcorn said: "Milton Keynes currently has the lowest burglary dwelling rate on record for the area.

"There have been six burglary dwellings since the beginning of the year where the theft of Asian gold appears to have been the motivation.

"Asian gold is targeted by criminals as it is known to provide a high return.

"Patrols are in place to deter offenders."

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Striking a pose: Finalist James Tobia

Hoping to be our next Top Model

TWENTY-TWO-YEAR-OLD James Tobia has made the final of Top Model UK 2014.

The Two Mile Ash resident will be one of 160 hopefuls to compete in the Grand Finals in London on April 4 and 5. James will be competing against 16 others in the men's category.

He said: "I hope one day I can represent auburn haired models at the highest levels."

After being chosen by industry experts, James is now relying on votes at www.topmodeluk.com

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Joy as hundreds Unite for Henry

Taken aback: Dawn and Mark Allen at the MK Rose following our campaign launch

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

THE parents of Henry Allen have been 'overwhelmed' by MK NEWS and MKWeb's campaign to keep the brave four-year-old's legacy alive in Milton Keynes.

As reported in last week's paper, we have launched our Unite for Henry campaign to get a pillar erected in his honour at MK Rose in Campbell Park.

And in just the first week of the campaign 763 people have signed the petition on our website – www.mkweb.co.uk

Henry's mum Dawn said: "We have been taken aback by the support. I was in tears reading the front page of MK NEWS last week and everyone has been telling us what a fantastic idea it is by the newspaper. It's amazing that key figures like Brian White and Karl Robinson are backing it."

The Bletchley youngster, who died from rare cancer neuroblastoma last year, touched the hearts of residents who united to support the Henry Allen Appeal, which aimed to raise enough money to send him abroad for treatment.

The appeal team raised more than £100,000, which will now be used for a new charity trust.

And Dawn and Henry's dad Mark are inviting readers to their next fundraising appeal – a balloon launch in Chepstow Park, Bletchley, at 2.45pm on March 2. Donations will go to the new trust.

Dawn said: "Chepstow Park was one of Henry's favourite places to go, we'd feed the ducks and have a picnic there.

"We want everyone to send a message on a balloon up to Henry."

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Re-enactment: Veterans talk with TNMOC's Andy Clark

Veterans attended Colossus birthday

VETERANS from Bletchley Park celebrated the 70th anniversary of Colossus last Wednesday.

The world's first electric computer sped up the codebreaking process, and WREN veterans Lorna Cockayne, Margaret O'Connell and Joanna Chorley visited it at its new site at The National Museum of Computing (TNMOC) along with Colossus wirer Margaret Bullen. Also there were the family of Tommy Flowers, who built it.

Man threatened children in text

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

A MAN escaped a second jail term for sending abusive texts to a former girlfriend – in which he threatened to seriously injure her and her children.

Alan Heard, 39, who had just been released from jail for harassing another ex-partner, sent Suzanne Morton 39 messages in July and August last year.

Heard, of Waterside, Milton Keynes, pleaded guilty to sending the messages, in which he implied he would cut the throats of Ms Morton and her children.

He had been released from his previous jail term on July 9, 2013 and soon moved into Ms Morton's home in Borehamwood.

Within three weeks she had booted him out and the court heard how he told her that he 'lived for violence' and it would be shown to her 'in full force'.

Judge Stephen Warner said the 'unpleasant and frightening' texts were 'distressing'.

But the judge said that the time Heard had spent in prison had already exceeded the maximum sentence he could pass. He sentenced him to three months' jail, which meant he was released immediately.

But the judge passed a two year restraining order banning Heard from contacting Ms Morton or going within 500 metres of her home.

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'Parking nightmare' approved by council

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news

A HOUSING development councillors admit could cause a 'parking nightmare' has been approved.

The building of 40 dwellings by Bellway Homes in Bedgebury Place, Kents Hill, was granted despite concerns over parking because Milton Keynes Council could have lost an appeal by the developers.

At the meeting of the development control committee on Thursday, Councillor John Bint highlighted the problem of tandem parking – vehicles parked on drives one behind the other – adding it would cause a 'parking nightmare' for residents.

But as there is no planning policy currently in place for the council to express these views, the committee was forced to vote through the scheme or face an expensive appeal by the developers.

Cllr Bint said after the meeting: "We have done extensive research into tandem parking and it reveals that people will just park on the streets and this will cause an overflow."

He added there would be a 'considerable risk' of more schemes being approved despite parking problems if there is no planning policy to enable the council to reject proposals.

Chairman of the development control committee, Cllr Mick Legg, told MK NEWS: "Had we refused on the grounds of parking then we would almost certainly have lost any appeal and would probably have had costs given against us as well. It is not ideal that we have to grant these applications."

A spokesman for Bellway Homes said the parking was 'fully in line with the council's standards'.

HAVE A SAY – COMMENT ON THIS ONLINE
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Sponsored read

PUPILS have been busy helping to raise funds to refurbish their school library.

Little bookworms at Russell Street School in Stony Stratford took part in a sponsored read for a week – and even celebrated their favourite bedtime stories by sporting their pyjamas in class.

The read was organised by the school's Parent's Association.

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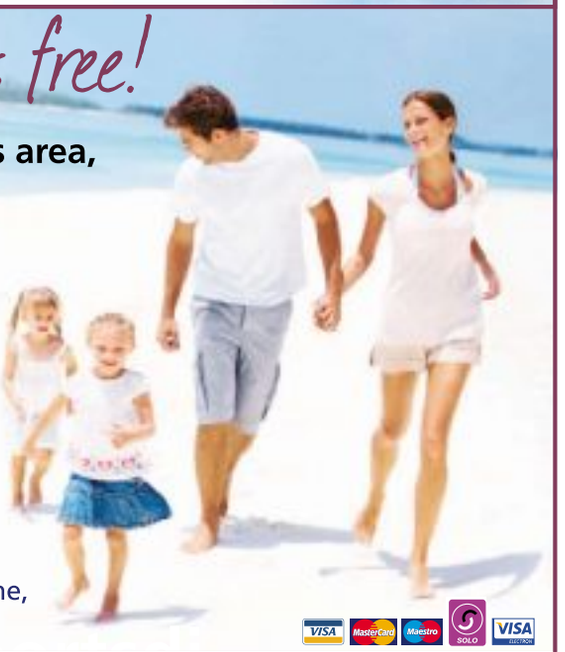
MK – Heathrow (T1-T5)	£65	£75	£85	£130
MK – Stansted	£70	£80	£90	£130
MK – St Pancras (Eurostar)	£75	£90	£100	£140
MK – Gatwick	£95	£110	£120	£150



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Expect surprises at

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

ONE of the city's most popular festivals is returning for a third year – promising new venues and 10 days of 'amazing' leisure events full of surprises.

Growing in stature both locally and nationally, IF: Milton Keynes International Festival will be taking place from July 18-27.

With an audience reach of more than 92,000 and an economic impact calculated at £4.2million, the festival is presenting a programme featuring large-scale spectaculars, family events, a children's festival, live music, comedy and cabaret.

Acrobatic: Casus' aerial feats

Highlights of the festival – for which MK NEWS and MKWeb are media partners – include what is sure to be an incredible performance by Ilotopie.

The French company will be showcasing Fouse de Bassin (Water Fools) and will literally be walking on water to conjure up an extraordinary and colourful floating spectacle.

The dream-like world will see cars, bicycles and caravans drive over the surface of Willen Lake on Friday, July 18 and the following day.

Then there will be Ray Lee's evocative Chorus, a giant sound and light installation featuring huge metal tripods with rotating arms which tower above the audience to create the effect of a whirling swarm of fireflies, or planets in motion.

There will also be the return of the Spiegeltent – a mirror tent that has already proved a massive hit with festival goers.

Taking to the stage will be folk star Seth Lakeman and Australian circus company Casus, which will perform beautiful acrobatics and astonishing aerial feats.

The festival is produced by entertainment venue The Stables and supported by Arts Council England and Milton Keynes Council.

Events and performances will take place across Central Milton Keynes as in previous years, though 2014 sees The Cathedral of Trees in Newlands, Willen Lake and its nearby park as additional locations.

Monica Ferguson, chief executive of The Stables and festival director, said: "IF: Milton Keynes International Festival has been developed to enrich people's experience of Milton Keynes by creating events within the city for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike.

"This year we are again working with the public and private sectors to deliver the festival in order to create even greater value and breadth of programme for the public to enjoy.

"As ever, there are plenty of surprises in unusual places across the city – expect the unexpected!"

See more information and a gallery of pictures www.mkweb.co.uk

popular city festival

Above: Spectacular water action from French group Ilotopie and, *below*, Ray Lee's Chorus

Water wonder: Ilotopie

IS YOUR PENSION PERFORMING BADLY? IF SO, READ ON

I recently had a meeting with a client during which he revealed that he and his wife had invested some of their savings with a well known building society. He wasn't exactly sure what they'd invested in other than that it was a combination of a cash savings account and a stockmarket investment using their ISA allowances.

This led us into a discussion about their attitudes to investment risk. Because his wife only wanted low risk investments the adviser recommended a portfolio with a large proportion of it invested in fixed interest stocks i.e. corporate bonds and government securities. My client is in fact a medium risk investor whereas his wife is a low risk investor.

Whilst traditionally fixed interest stocks have been recognised as low risk investments this is no longer the case. Why is this? Well the value of such investments generally rises and falls in line with interest rates. What we've experienced over the last few years is an unprecedented period of extremely low interest rates due to the financial crisis of 2008 and its hangover since then. During the period when interest rates fell from 5%-6% to 0.5% the value of fixed interest securities rose.

Tony Byrne
Chartered and Certified Financial Planner
Author of Wealth Magic

However, interest rates will not remain at this low level over the long term. At some stage in the next 2-3 years commentators believe interest rates will rise probably back to the levels they were before the financial crisis. This means that the value of fixed interest securities will fall. In fact it has been forecast that the overall annual returns on this type of investment are likely to be 2% p.a. for the next 10 years. This is because such investments produce an income return in the form of interest as well as a capital gain or loss.

In addition to his inflation is likely to return with a vengeance due to the government printing money which is euphemistically known as quantitative easing.

In a period when inflation and interest rates are rising you need to be invested in real assets i.e. shares and property because these are the only investments capable of matching or beating inflation.

So why not have your pensions reviewed?

To find out more why not come to a free retirement planning seminar at our Furzton Lake offices? We are also offering a free pensions and retirement assessment worth £270 to the first 10 people who contact us before 28th February 2014. For details go to www.wealthandtax.co.uk/pension.

We offer a great cup of coffee too.

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Chartered and Certified Financial Planner
Author of Wealth Magic
Financial Planning Director
Wealth And Tax Management
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Car-loving fat folk urged to use parks

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

THE city has been shocked by new figures that revealed nearly three quarters of our adult population is obese.

And while the number of fast food restaurants and a hectic lifestyle have been highlighted as reason for residents' expanding waistlines, the finger of blame has also been pointed at the grid road system.

One city nutritionist believes the layout of Milton Keynes means people are too reliant on their cars.

Robin Dowswell, who owns DrDobbin Nutrition in Newport Pagnell, told MK NEWS: "The main reason is junk food, but I think the grid road system is certainly a big factor.

"At the moment we're like an American city where we have to drive everywhere.

"It's all well and good having the redways but how many people actually use them? More people are using their cars for everything."

But Briony Fox, head of community engagement for The Parks Trust, also believes that the city was designed with walkers in mind.

She is urging residents to fight the flab by taking on regular walks around the city's many parks.

"Most people in the city live within five minutes of a park, and while I agree that the city was designed with the car in mind, it's also designed for walkers," she said.

"There are not many places where you could walk across a city without crossing a road, but this is one of them.

"We offer a number of walking clubs and we realise that people lead busy lives now so we have a ranger ramble for people to take part in after they finish their working day."

Best foot forward: Walking in the city's parks is a good way of staying in shape

Share your views on this: www.mkweb.co.uk

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In training: Daniel Grimes and Roberto Sordillo have a strict training schedule and are cycling in Bow Brickhill Woods to help them get ready for their three-month bike ride in aid of charity

Ride on the Mind

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

A WORLD record cyclist is supporting two fundraisers who have got just one thing on their Mind.

That is the epic challenge of cycling 5,387km over 10 countries in three months.

On March 25 Daniel Grimes, 22, and Roberto Sordillo, 23, will be leaving Bletchley to travel across Central and South America from Mexico to Peru all in aid of the mental health charity Mind.

Daniel said: "We feel mental illness is a silent illness that can be more powerful and more devastating than people care to admit.

"We want to remove the stigma of mental health by raising awareness."

The pair have been receiving top tips from Mark Beaumont, who holds the record for cycling round the world and has helped them plan their route to avoid some of its most dangerous areas.

He said: "Mexico to Peru is a fascinating, colourful and really testing cycle. I wish Daniel and Roberto every success for a wonderful adventure and also in their great fundraising for Mind."

Watch a video and follow Daniel and Rob's progress www.mkweb.co.uk

The duo hope to raise £1,077.40, which works out as 40p per mile.

Paul Farmer, CEO of Mind, said: "I'm hugely impressed by Daniel and Roberto's commitment and ambition.

"As well as having the adventure of a lifetime, they will raise much needed funds for Mind's work."

■ To sponsor Daniel and Roberto visit www.justgiving.com/viaggiobybike

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2011	Lunar Lexon 570	6	M	13,495
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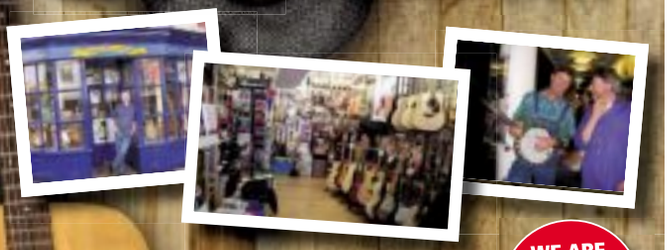

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HALF TERM HOLIDAY

With another Half Term fast approaching, how are you going to try and keep your little ones & your not so little ones occupied?

There are a huge variety of activities on offer in and around Milton Keynes and here are a sample of venues that will help keep your kids entertained whatever the weather...

Lambing Is Back!

It's Lamb Crazy this February Half Term at Mead Open Farm! Meet the new arrivals in the Lamb Nursery, try Lamb Bottle Feeding and, back for 2014, watch the 24-7 LambCam from home!

Plus, run wild in Shaggy's Playworld, tackle the new Sky Trail High Ropes course and plenty more farm fun!

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HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Half term holiday fun!

Join us for our half term holiday club, Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February 8.15am – 6pm
All week our theme is food, glorious food! We have lots of food related activities all week, arts and crafts and Smart Raspberry Cookery School will be spending the day with us on Wednesday*

Just £22 per day with discounts available for multiple bookings and siblings, includes morning and afternoon snacks.

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Tickets are available to purchase online at www.frostsgroup.com or from the Garden Centre. We strongly advise booking early for this event!

Frosts Garden Centre - Woburn Sands
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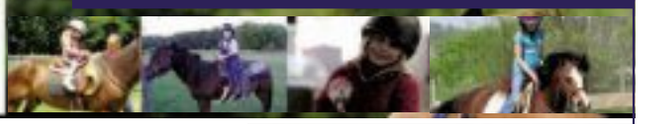

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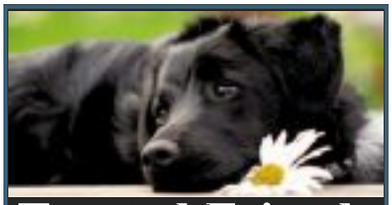

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BEING admitted to hospital can be a frightening experience for children and young people.

As a result, Milton Keynes Hospital Charity set up Leo's Appeal in September last year to focus on children's services and make their stay as comfortable as possible. It aims to raise £200,000 to make a difference to the 36,000 youngsters aged from 0-16 who are treated in the ward each year, *see right*.

Along with its mascot Leo the Lion, the appeal wants to inspire the MK community to help the children and families at the hospital. And as reported in last week's MK NEWS, we have chosen the appeal as our charity of the year for 2014 to help make it a roaring success.

Vanessa Holmes, fundraising manager for Leo's Appeal, said: "It is very important to us to raise awareness of the appeal as it is going to make a huge difference to the children on the ward. We can't wait to really get stuck in with fundraising this year and we would like to thank MK NEWS and MKWeb readers for their support so far."

■ To donate visit www.justgiving.com/leosappeal

£25,000

Will support the importance of play within the children's ward. This money will ensure every child in the ward's care has access to a play specialist, who will sit, work and read with them and help their time in hospital go quicker. The money will also go towards buying more items for children of all ages and abilities, including gaming equipment and televisions.

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Leo's Appeal

Thumbs up: Patients, doctors, nurses and Leo the Lion at MK Hospital's children's ward

£30,000

Will pay for other ward refurbishments to make all the spaces even more child and family-friendly. This will include installing fun, interaction floor systems, redeveloping patient areas and painting murals to make the areas feel more like home than being in hospital.

£15,000

Will help to enhance facilities for mums, dads and carers by providing fold-down chair beds so they can stay with their child and a parent's room where they can make something for themselves to eat and drink.

£130,000

Will go towards redeveloping areas which are tired and dull, such as the isolation suites for vulnerable children and treatment spaces. By making these areas more colourful and welcoming the appeal hopes to make children's time in hospital more fun. This money will also go towards sensory rooms that will help all children relax, in particular those with special needs.

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Reason to Visit:
For 12 years Arthur and his team at Smarts Fish and Chip shop have been serving delicious Dish and Chips. In addition they have a varied menu offering Pies, Kebabs, Burgers, Chicken and Jacket Potatoes and drinks. They also cater for the little ones with Kiddies Box meals. Arthur and his team also cater for parties, large or small. For a good choice of food to please the whole family, visit Smarts Fish and Chip Shop on Queensway, Bletchley – the home of good Fish and Chips!

Opening Times:
Monday-Thursday 10.30am-10.30pm
Friday and Saturday 10.30am-11.00pm • Sunday 12.00pm-9.00pm

Contact: 01908 370499

©LW

Debate will always rage over which is the best way to cook them. In the North chips are traditionally cooked in dripping fat however the health police would tell us that chips cooked in oil are 'better for us' but what about the taste you ask?!

You can hardly walk past a fish and chip shop without being tempted by the delicious smell.

Whatever their appeal, long may the British love affair with chips continue to reign.

Some of your regions finest chip shops are on this page, however **tell us who your favourite 'chippy' is** by simply logging online at **www.mkweb.co.uk** to place your vote and **have the chance to win £20 to spend in your favourite chippy**

Neath Hill Fish and Chip Shop

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Neath Hill Fish and Chip Shop
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National Chip Week 18th – 24th February

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National Chip Week

17th-23rd February 2014

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Advertisement Feature

Award Winning napoli FISH BAR Chip shop

Still making a tasty dish after 35 years

Having first opened its doors in New Bradwell in 1979 The award winning Napoli Fish bar will this year be celebrating 35 years in business.

With fresh fish being delivered daily and using only the best quality potatoes fried in top-quality cooking oil Napoli has established itself as one of the finest fish bars in Milton Keynes.

Over the years Napoli fish bar has collected several awards. Being one of the first 25 in the UK to receive the Fish Friars Quality Award.

Luciano said we have tried to stick to our winning formula by not sacrificing quality for profit and we are still mostly using the same suppliers as the day we started.

Having traded in New Bradwell so long, Napoli has always tried to support the local community by raising thousands for charities, supporting local schools and sponsoring local sports clubs. Giving back to the very people that have supported us all these years.

Napoli Fish Bar would like to take this opportunity in thanking all it's customers for the support it has received over the years in helping them reach this milestone.

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Raising awareness of 'suicide disease'

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

A RESIDENT is trying to raise awareness of a painful condition that is 'poorly understood' in the UK.

Kevin Scardifield from Netherfield suffers with Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CPRS).

It is a progressive disease where a person develops a persistent burning pain in one or more of their limbs.

Mr Scardifield was diagnosed with CPRS in August 2009 and as a result he is now crippled and housebound.

He said: "CPRS is the most painful condition and is well known in America as suicide disease.

"We need to ensure that every medical profession in the UK can diagnose this and knows how a sufferer needs to be treated."

The NHS describes it as 'a poorly understood condition' that 'may go undiagnosed or misdiagnosed'.

An NHS study reported as many as one in 3,800 people in England may be affected.

The 59-year-old contacted city MP Iain Stewart who after a parliamentary debate persuaded the minister of state at the Department of Health, Norman Lamb, to explore the condition further.

Mr Stewart said: "With more research and better awareness, the medical professionals will have a much better understanding of CPRS and people will be treated correctly."

CPRS SYMPTOMS

- Burning pain in part, or all, of a limb
- The skin of the affected area can become very sensitive
- Changes in skin colour/texture and hair/nail growth
- Swelling/stiffness in the affected joints
- Difficulty moving

Discomfort: Kevin Scardifield who suffers from Complex Regional Pain Syndrome

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- Join us in a guided tour of the hospital
- Get involved in practical activities in the dedicated skills lab
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Time: 9am - 1pm
Venue: Milton Keynes Hospital Postgraduate Centre

For further information, contact Clare Jelley on 01908 243993 or email clare.jelley@mkhospital.nhs.uk
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Days numbered for hotel on M1

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

ONE of the oldest motorway hotels in the UK will be demolished to make way for a new one – and up to 60 houses will be built to fund the project.

The Days Inn Hotel, which was opened as a Welcome Lodge in 1959, sits beside Newport Pagnell Services on the M1.

But service station operator, Welcome Break, has had a planning application approved by Milton Keynes Council to demolish the landmark so a modern 100-room hotel can be built in its place, as well as 100 parking spaces.

There will also be the construction of an 864 square metre office building that will house Welcome Break workers, who will relocate from their current office in Newport Pagnell.

But it is the residential development that will fund the revamp, with an estimated construction cost of £6.1million for the hotel and £2million for the new office.

Out of date: Day's Inn Hotel will be knocked down and replaced

It is expected that up to 60 new jobs could be created for the community with the redevelopment of the site.

Welcome Break's CEO, Rod McKie, told MK NEWS: "We are obviously thrilled to get planning permission.

"While it has been a bit drawn out, we are pleased with the outcome. It means we can build a fantastic new modern hotel replacing a very busy but tired infrastructure.

Share your views on this:
www.mkweb.co.uk

"Added to this, as part of the development, we are able to build a new office facility which should not just retain our long-standing ties within the area where we are a fairly large employer, but also we will add more jobs in conjunction with this development, specifically in the hotel."

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MILTON KEYNES

Make the most of your home compost bin

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Do you have a home compost bin and don't know how to use it or perhaps you're composting and not getting the results you expected? Or if you'd simply like to find out more about home composting, come along to our free home composting workshop at the Hanson Centre on Saturday 5th April to get the best advice from our composting expert.

If there are any particular issues you want covered, please let us know. The workshop starts at 10am and will finish around 11.30am. There will also be some fun activities for children.

To reserve your place or for more information email: **yourwaste@milton-keynes.gov.uk** with your contact details or call 01908 252570.

Here in Milton Keynes, our weekly food and garden waste scheme provides a quick and easy way to get rid of organic waste - but by buying a home compost bin you can become a greener gardener and help your own garden to thrive.

If you would like to buy a home compost bin, now is the best time to do it as prices will increase in April. Milton Keynes Council has teamed up with compost bin provider Evergreener who sells the bins on the council's behalf – see the advertisement below for details. You can access their web page via the council website **www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/compost** or go to **www.getcomposting.com**

Free Home Composting Workshop
Where: Hanson Centre, Wolverton Road, Great Linford MK14 5AH
When: Saturday 5th April 2014, 10.00am - 11.30am.

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You can now book online to have large household items collected from your property - visit www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/bulkywaste for more details. This new service will cut telephone waiting times and enable residents to book at any time of day.

The service costs £10 for 1-5 items, £20 for 6-10 items and £30 for 11-15 items. For more than 15 items, fixtures and fittings, building materials or garden waste, residents need to call our Environmental Services Contact Centre on 01908 252570 to arrange for a quote - a minimum charge of £40 will apply.

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National Chip Week
17th-23rd February 2014

Viva Las Vegas! Viva Local World!

ALL the glitz and the glamour of Las Vegas came to MK NEWS and MKWeb's annual awards ceremony on Friday.

Recognising the excellence and achievements of staff and the newspapers and websites they produce in the Central and East region of parent company Local World, the glittering occasion was held in the grand marquee at Bedford Blues Rugby Club.

And the stars of MK NEWS and MKWeb came out in force to celebrate.

Executive director of Local World, Central and East, Mike Richardson, welcomed the staff and thanked, in particular, the company's sponsors who had made the evening possible and who, by their support, ensured it was a success.

The casino-themed setting, complete with chocolate gambling chips, dice and lucky keyrings on every table, giant playing cards displayed around the walls and the rush to inhabit the life size, showgirl cut-out photo opportunity all contributed to the Vegas-style atmosphere. A tasty, four course meal followed a champagne reception and on every table both red and white wine flowed – all courtesy of Local World and its generous sponsors.

Taking the lead: Executive director Mike Richardson

By the time Mike stood up to deliver a digitally illustrated, entertaining and occasionally saucy speech, the atmosphere was certainly relaxed, convivial and... expectant.

The much anticipated awards ceremony was the highlight – not least for the well-deserved winners.

From Unsung Hero to Title of the Year, the competition was fierce and the outcome was never a foregone conclusion.

Photographer Andy Handley won Sports Image of the Year for his picture of MK Dons celebrating one of their goals against Wolverhampton Wanderers, while receptionist Marie Baker picked up the award for Customer Service of the Year.

MK NEWS and MKWeb were highly commended in the Story of the Year category for the Winter Blunderland article in December, which reported how the Winter Wonderland event in Campbell Park was closed after just one day following thousands of complaints from visitors. Field sales executive Joyce Bell was runner-up in the Sales Person of the Year category.

The past year has been challenging at times for regional newspapers but if the Local World Excellence Awards 2014 Presentation Dinner was anything to go by, MK NEWS and MKWeb came up trumps.

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Winner: Receptionist Marie Baker was honoured for her customer service

Snap: Andy Handley gets his award for his sports image from publisher Sharon Hobday and, *below*, the winning picture

All smiles: MK NEWS' editorial team

Party time: MK NEWS and MKWeb's advertising team

Glamorous: Digital publisher Gemma Dunne and team leader Carlie Lewis

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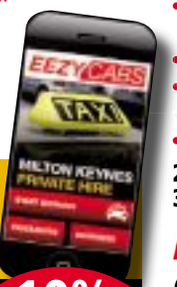

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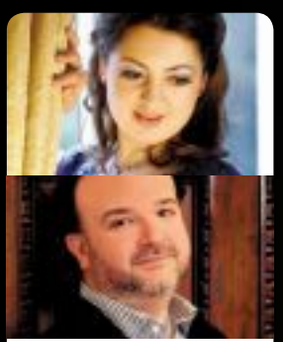

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Youngsters practice reading – to a dog

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

A SCHOOL is trying to boost the literacy skills and self confidence of its pupils by getting them to read to a dog.

Border terrier Stitch visits Oxley Park Academy every Thursday to work with students aged between five and ten who do not like reading aloud in lessons.

Each child spends a few weeks practicing reading to Stitch, who is taken in by volunteers from Pets As Therapy (PAT) as part of its Read2Dogs scheme.

Juliette Phillips, inclusion manager at Oxley Park Academy, said: "We choose children to do this who are not confident to read aloud in lessons.

"It is an opportunity for them to build up their confidence with Stitch, who loves to listen with his head on their lap. We encourage them to read to pets at home if they can and we monitor each child's progress.

"It's great to see each student's confidence build until they are back in class reading aloud."

PAT, which takes dogs into schools so pupils can read to them without the pressure of being judged, is funded by the Kennel Club's Bark and Read Foundation.

Caroline Kisko, Kennel Club secretary, said: "We are thrilled Oxley Park Academy is supporting child literacy and helping to boost reading levels by arranging for the children to read to the Pets As Therapy dogs."

A good 'tail': Gemma Davies from Oxley Park Academy reads to Beryl Hathaway and Stitch as part of the Read2Dogs scheme

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Carl and Co will have you in the Palm of their hands

ONE of Milton Keynes' premiere music venues will play host to a true legend this week – so make sure you don't miss out!

Carl Palmer, one of the most renowned drummers in rock history and a founding member of both Emerson Lake & Palmer (ELP) and Asia, is returning to the world stage for an extensive tour with a show that presents bold, new arrangements of the best-loved instrumental music of ELP and other composers.

A multimedia experience combining music and video projection, the Carl Palmer Legacy is a red-hot power trio that features Palmer on drums and percussion, guitarist Paul Bielatowicz and bassist Simon Fitzpatrick.

It's all part of his Twist of the Wrist Tour for 2014, which is playing just 14 dates across the whole year.

The Legacy band put a new face on such tracks as Toccata, Hoedown and Fanfare For The Common Man and perform them with dizzying complexity and an energy perhaps not heard since the earliest days of ELP.

They will be performing at The Stables in Wavendon on Sunday.

Tickets for the 8pm show cost £19.50 and can be bought by calling the box office on 01908 280800, or online at www.stables.org

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Wednesday 12 February, 8pm **TOPLOADER**
The pop maestros are back on the road again
Tickets £17.50

Thursday 13 February, 8pm **NINE BELOW ZERO & BEN WATERS**
Get ready for an explosive mix of blues and rock
Tickets £17.50 & £18.50

Friday 14 February, 8pm **PROJECTIONS: OF MILES**
Trumpeter Jay Phelps and friends celebrate the music of Mile Davis
Tickets £16

Sunday 16 February, 8pm **CARL PALMER ELP LEGACY**
Legendary drummer of Emerson Lake & Palmer fame performs with his trio
Tickets £19.50

Monday 17 February, 8pm **LAURA CANTRELL**
Don't miss one of the true superstars of country music
Tickets £17.50

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www.mkgallery.org

MKlife
Competitions | MK Theatre | Out and about

TESCO express

WIN gift card worth £250 to spend at new store

HOW would you like to win a Tesco gift card worth £250?

To celebrate the opening of the new Woburn Sands Tesco Express store, MK LIFE has teamed up with the supermarket to give one lucky reader the chance to spend £250 in the new shop in the High Street.

Because, as its famous motto says – every little helps.

The new Tesco Express opened on January 11, when the store made a £500 donation to Age UK Milton Keynes.

Maggi Clark, Age UK Milton Keynes' area retail manager and Diana Winch, manager of the Woburn Sands Age UK shop, cut a ribbon to declare the new store officially open for business.

With so much choice and convenience, the new Tesco Express is the perfect place to grab a sandwich or stock up on everyday essentials from a range of more than 2,500 products – and you can get Clubcard points too!

Enter this fantastic competition and you could be stocking up on all your favourite products from Tesco. Choose from a range of fresh, chilled and frozen products, household items, daily essentials, newspapers and magazines.

The store is now open seven days a week from 6am-11pm and for added convenience it has self-service tills, a mobile phone top-up facility, an in-store bakery, beers, wines and spirits.

There is also Click & Collect and free customer parking at the rear of the store.

To be in with a chance of being the lucky winner, simply answer the question below.

What is the well-known Tesco motto?

A: Every Little Helps!
B: Live Well for Less
C: I'm lovin' it
D: Finger licking good

To enter log onto www.mkweb.co.uk/competitions Alternatively send your answer, name, address and daytime telephone number to MK NEWS, 1 Diamond Court, Fox Milne, MK15 0DU by noon on Wednesday, February 19. The editor's decision is final

wickedshow

USUALLY during the course of a musical you tend to find one actor who may have a bit of a weaker voice, or a performer who is maybe not as strong as some of the others, but that is not the case with Wicked, writes Scott Kirk.

Each person had a stunning voice and the acting was faultless in this sensational twist on the Wizard of Oz.

My girlfriend pretty much gawped open-mouthed at the absolutely spectacular costumes for the first 20 minutes and top marks for the make-up on the monkeys and the goat have to be given.

It would be unfair to highlight the performance of one actor over another because everybody was simply that good – from poor old Boq played by George Ure, to Marilyn Cutts as Madame Morrible.

Wicked is a musical about friendship and the relationship between Elphaba (Nikki Davis Jones) and Glinda (Emily Tierney), is perhaps the most endearing element of the performance.

Wicked runs at Milton Keynes Theatre until March 8. Go to www.atgtickets.com to book, and follow the hashtag #mkiswicked on Twitter to follow the Emerald City.

walkingclub

HAVE you ever wanted to join a walking group to exercise while meeting new people?

Well, Hike MK , which offers walks between four and 12 miles each weekend, could be the answer. The social events, not expeditions, are aimed at adults in their 20s to 40s.

This Sunday from 10.30am the group will be walking around Woburn on a leisurely walk, but don't forget your walking boots. It will be stopping at the Black Horse pub for lunch afterwards.

People don't have to pay to go on the walk but if they would like to participate regularly they should become a member for £32 a year. Call Rob on 07704 644250 to join.

On a high: The Airkix Kidz Camp at Xscape is offering five flights for children this half-term

ARE you wondering what the children can do this February half-time? Well to help you cram as much fun into their week as possible take a look at our selection of activities

Creative: The Buszy will hold classes including ones in graffiti

IF YOUR children like digging for treasures they'll love Fossil Hunting with The Park's Trust.

They can hunt for ancient aquatic life at Stonepit Field and rangers will be on hand to help them identify their finds.

Children will also be able to make volcanos and do some creating in the crafts area at the event on Wednesday, February 19 from 10am to noon.

It costs £3 per child and must be booked in advance. Visit www.theparkstrust.com or call 01908 255379.

Another activity to prise the children off the sofa is Airkix's Kidz Camp at Xscape.

Perfect for those up to the age of 16, it will be an opportunity for them to experience five fully coached Airkix flights, learn new skills and make friends.

Available at selected times from Monday to Friday, February 21, prices start from £29.99. To book visit www.airkix.com

A whole range of fun activities will also be taking place at The Buszy in Elder Gate.

With a breakfast club, skate school, cookery, graffiti, street dance and media classes being held throughout the week there will be something for everyone.

The classes are for eight to 14-year-olds and last two-and-a-half hours.

Sessions, which take place between 8.30am and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, February 21 cost £5 per person.

To book a place on one or more classes visit www.thebuszy.com or call 01908 231312.

The award-winning John Lawson's Circus will be returning to Frosts Garden Centre in Woburn Sands.

Performances will be held from Saturday until Friday, February 21 at 10.30am, 2.30pm and 4.30pm. Tickets, which cost £5.99 per person, are expected to sell out quickly.

Children can also decorate their own wooden bird box for their garden at the centre.

Classes, costing £4.99 per child, will be available from Monday to Friday, February 21 from 10am-4pm. All children will receive a chocolate treat and refreshments.

Buy tickets for either of these events at www.frostsgardencentres.co.uk/woburnsands

Finally, you can take the whole family to Milton Keynes Museum to meet Professor Beamish the scientist and take a look around the 14 exhibitions.

Entry is £6 for children, £7.50 for adults and £22 for a family of four. The museum will be open every day during half-term from 11am-4.30pm.

online
to read more leisure news log onto our website
mkweb.co.uk

Digging for treasure: Hunt for fossils with The Park's Trust's rangers

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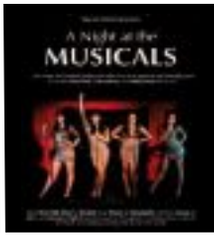
Friday 21st February £23



Friday 28th February £23

Friday 7th March Miami Latino, Latin American Pop £23

Saturday 8th March Pulp Fiction, Dirty Dancing and Rock and Roll £25

Special Offer £18
Friday 14th March
Sahara Soul Night

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over 15,000 visitors online every day

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MKlife

online
for the full review and all the latest cinema times visit
mkweb.co.uk

movie review

MATTHEW McConaughey is full of life in this engaging and emotive true story of a man dying of AIDS who goes to extreme measures to stay alive.

Texas cowboy Ron Woodroof's life is overturned after he is diagnosed with AIDS and given just 30 days to live.

Shunned by those around him Ron establishes a buyers club and starts illegally importing treatments from around the world. McConaughey settles easily into Woodroof's comfortable swagger with his dramatic weight loss quickly overshadowed by his excellent performance.

Rock star Jared Leto also lost a notable amount of weight to play the flamboyant Raymon, which is a dramatic transformation for his colourful and heart wrenching performance. Jennifer Garner plays love interest Dr Eve Saks whose inner moral struggles don't quite get the screen time they deserve and for such a morally driven film, her performance is lacking.

Dallas Buyers Club is clearly a simplified Hollywood reboot of true events, but McConaughey's dedication to the role is both admirable and memorable.

★★★★½

Rachael West

JAMES Frost, managing director at Frost's Garden Centre in Woburn Sands, writes exclusively for MK LIFE. This month he gives you his top tips for making sure your garden is ready for spring

SPRING is fast approaching and it's time to prepare the garden!

Seed potato tubers are available and it is time to 'chit' (placing in a tray/egg box to support the tuber in a cool frost free, dry place) these so they produce new shoots prior to planting in March and April.

Apricot, peach or nectarine plants will flower early in the season so you must protect them from heavy frost.

Summer flowering deciduous shrubs need to be pruned as they flower on current season's wood – buddleia, lavatera, leycesteria, hydrangea paniculata and hardy fuchsia.

Deciduous grasses should also be cut back in February and summer and autumn flowering clematis should be cut back to the lowest set of strong swelling buds.

Leave bouganvillea unpruned until the spring after flowering to avoid frost damage.

blue murder

JESSICA Fostekew will headline the Screaming Blue Murder Comedy Club at The Stables in Wavendon on Wednesday, February 19.

She was a semi finalist in the Amused Moose awards in 2010, and in the same year reached the final of the Funny Women awards.

A writer on Channel 4's Stand Up For the Week, Jessica is developing TV pilots and shorts and writes for comedians and comedy actors.

Andrew Bird takes up compere duties and on the undercard is rising star Tom Goodliffe, a former accountant.

He supported The Boy With Tape On His Face during his UK tour and the writer-performer even fired off questions at Formula One world champion Sebastian Vettel, Red Bull team principal Christian Horner, and F1 legends Martin Brundle and Johnny Herbert during a quiz at the Italian Grand Prix for Sky Sports.

Tickets for the gig, at 8.45pm, cost £10 in advance and £12 on the door. For booking information go to www.stables.org/Whats_on

practical dialogue

MK GALLERY'S project space is hosting a exhibition aimed at provoking conversations between artists.

Sue Baker-Kenton, artist in residence at Leicester Print Workshop between 2012 and 2013, came up with the Practical Dialogue idea, which continues until March 2.

She is a visual artist and an educator who specialises in etchings and lithographs.

Printmakers Peter Clayton and Serena Smith and visual artists Gino Ballantyne, Gordon Millar and Richard Devereux are the other members of the project.

Your essential guide to events big and small throughout Milton Keynes

MKlifeHOTPICKS

got an exciting event?
email editor@mk-news.co.uk
see our online gig guide
www.mkweb.co.uk

explosiveblues

AUDIENCES in MK are set to be exhilarated with mesmerising rock and blues.

Internationally recognised group Nine Below Zero will be joined by pianist Ben Waters (who has recently been boogying with the Rolling Stone's Charlie Watts) to deliver an explosive mix of blues to an expectant crowd.

Nine Below Zero and Ben Waters will be performing at The Stables in Wavendon at 8pm tomorrow.

Tickets cost from £17.50 at www.stables.org or by calling 01908 280800.

djswerve

KISS FM's DJ Swerve will be performing at Cookies and Cream's Valentines Special.

After interviewing stars like Jay Z and Snoop Dog he has now turned his talents to music and will be playing a mixture of bass, hip hop and R'n'B on Friday from 11pm.

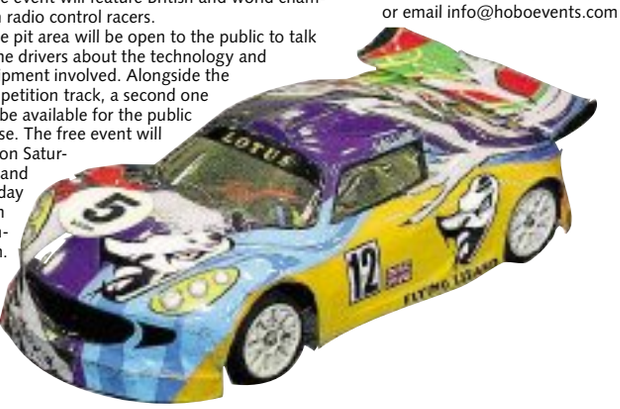
Tickets cost £3 if booked in advance at www.fatsoma.com or £6 on the night.

racingcars

MILTON Keynes Radio Control Touring Cars will be putting on two days of racing in Middleton Hall at thecentre:mk.

The event will feature British and world champion radio control racers.

The pit area will be open to the public to talk to the drivers about the technology and equipment involved. Alongside the competition track, a second one will be available for the public to use. The free event will run on Saturday and Sunday from 8am-6pm.



creativetea

A REAL treat for a Sunday afternoon is the new monthly programme of hour-and-a-half art classes at The Stani Studios followed by tea and scones or coffee and cake.

At this month's CreativeTea residents can enjoy making jewellery on Sunday, February 23 for an all inclusive price of £25 per person. The event from 2-4pm is perfect for groups of four to 10 people. To book your place visit www.art-and-craft-workshops-milton-keynes.co.uk or call the Stony Stratford studios on 01908 567656.

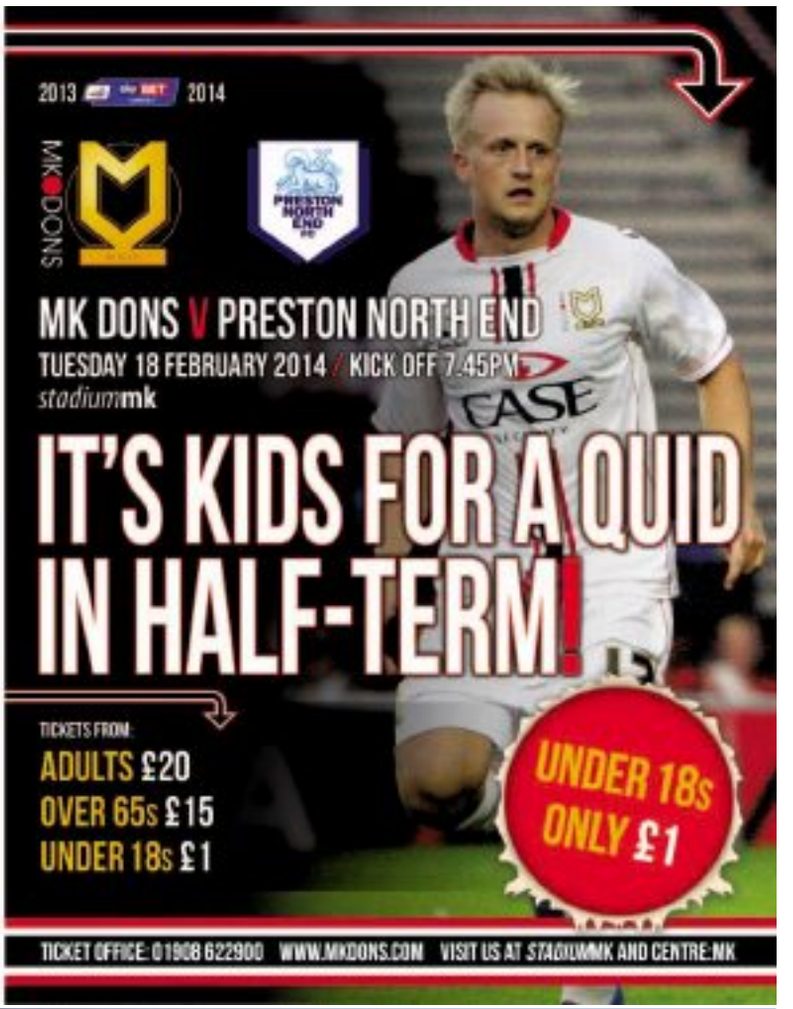
ladiesnight

ENJOY the Ultimate Ladies Night at Kiln Farm Club.

The event will feature three male strippers, drag artists and topless waiters and is expected to be a sell out.

Tickets cost £10 and the event will be held on Sunday, February 23 from 4pm until late.

To book call on 01908 415920 or email info@hoboevents.com



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To find out more visit:

www.timefortwos.com

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PROPERTY NEWS

Wednesday, February 12, 2014

Grange Farm

INSPIRED Sales & Lettings is delighted to offer for sale an extremely well presented and substantial five-bedroom executive home.

This detached property occupies a larger than average plot in a private cul-de-sac and is located within walking distance of local schools and amenities in the popular Grange Farm area of Milton Keynes.

On the market for £490,000 and brought from new by the current owners, the property has the added benefit of a detached double garage with a large gated driveway providing off-road parking for five or more cars.

The accommodation is set over two floors and comprises spacious hallway, lounge, family room, purpose-built study, kitchen, dining room, utility room and cloakroom on the ground floor. On the first floor there is a landing, generous sized master bedroom with en-suite, second bedroom with en-suite, three further double bedrooms and a family bathroom.

The front garden is low maintenance and enclosed with a wrought iron fence. The rear garden is split into two sections and is mainly laid to lawn with a patio and separate seating area.

Viewings are strictly by appointment. Call 01908 690700 or visit www.inspiredagents.co.uk

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Old Farm Park

- Five Bedroom Detached Property
- Two En-Suites
- Three Reception Rooms
- Double Garage
- Sought After Location
- Good School Catchment Area

A five bedroom detached property in the popular location of Old Farm Park that has been maintained to a very high standard by the current owners and located in a cul-de-sac with views over the green to the front.

£525,000

Medbourne

- Detached Executive Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Three Bathrooms
- Double Garage
- Attractive Gardens

An enviably located detached executive property situated in the highly desirable location of Medbourne. This family home boasts a wealth of accommodation including four double bedrooms and two en-suite bathrooms.

£455,000

Loughton

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Re-fitted En-Suite to Master
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Double Garage

A very well presented four bedroom detached property located in a quiet cul-de-sac within the sought after village of Loughton. An internal viewing is highly recommended to appreciate this lovely family home.

£450,000

Bletchley

- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking
- Double Garage
- Front & Rear Gardens

Oakwood House is situated in a small gated development offering privacy and a peaceful environment off Newton Road. The current owners had many high specification extras added when the house was built and have maintained the property beautifully.

£440,000

propertywide.co.uk Zoopla.co.uk rightmove.co.uk PrimeLocation.com
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Wavendon

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Potential to Extend
- Large Brick Built Shed

This property was originally the old Post Office in the village of Wavendon. The property offers versatile accommodation and enormous potential to extend.

£450,000

Monkston Park

- Detached Property
- Five Double Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner & Utility Room
- Single Garage & Off Road Parking
- Sought After Area of Monkston Park
- Short Walk to Local Schools & Parkland

Located in a good school catchment area is this five double bedroom detached property situated in the sought after area of Monkston Park within a short walk of the local schools and parkland.

£415,000

Shenley Church End

- Five Bedroom Detached Property
- Lounge & Breakfast Kitchen
- Dining Room, Utility and Cloakroom
- Two En-Suites
- Double Garage
- Rear Garden

A spacious five bedroom detached executive residence situated in the sought after area of Shenley Church End. Comprises five double bedrooms, garden and off road parking.

£375,000

Bletchley

- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Four Bathrooms
- Garden
- Double Garage

A five bedroom detached property situated on a corner plot in a quiet cul-de-sac location. This family property in brief offers lounge, dining room, family room, conservatory and kitchen/breakfast room.

£375,000

propertywide.co.uk Zoopla.co.uk rightmove.co.uk PrimeLocation.com

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Woolstone

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Double Garage
- Ample Off Road Parking
- Garden

This four bedroom detached executive residence is situated in a cul-de-sac location. The property comprises; lounge, dining room, study, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, cloakroom and two conservatories.

£500,000

Caldecotte

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Four Reception Rooms
- Re-fitted Kitchen
- Double Garage
- Off Road Parking

An exceptional four bedroom detached family property in the popular residential area of Caldecotte. Situated within close proximity of Caldecotte Lake this well presented property is in catchment for the highly regarded Walton High school.

£500,000

Great Linford

- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Two En-Suite Facilities
- Four Reception Rooms
- Double Garage
- Much Improved & Extended

Improved and extended detached residence situated in a cul-de-sac location. Benefitting from double glazing, gas to radiator heating, gardens and double garage.

£488,000

Medbourne

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Three Bathrooms
- Rear Garden
- Driveway & Garage

A very well presented four bedroom, double fronted, detached property with stunning atrium style kitchen and dining room. This property overlooks open parkland to the front which in turn lies next to the beautiful Shenley Woods.

£375,000

propertywide.co.uk Zoopla.co.uk rightmove.co.uk PrimeLocation.com
The Property Ombudsman

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Sales & Lettings
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Heelands £385,000

- Detached Bungalow
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- En-Suite
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage

Furzton £365,000

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Garden & Garage
- Off Road Parking

Willen £325,000

- Four Bedroom Property
- Two Reception Rooms
- Garden & Garage
- Off Road Parking
- Sought After Location

Downhead Park £275,000

- Detached Property
- Four Double Bedrooms
- Open Plan Lounge
- Conservatory
- Driveway & Enclosed Garden

Vizion £225,000

- Flat/Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Lounge/Diner
- En-Suite to Master
- Private Garden

Broughton £345,000

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Garden & Off Road Parking

Bradville £189,995

- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- One Reception Room
- Garden & Off Road Parking

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WANTED!
4 bed detached property required in Two Mile Ash or Great Holm for waiting buyer.

Two Mile Ash £395,000
- Detached Property
- Six Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Off Road Parking

Caldecotte £375,000
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking & Garage

WANTED!
3 bed semi detached property required in Old Farm Park for waiting buyer.

Bradwell Common £249,995
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking

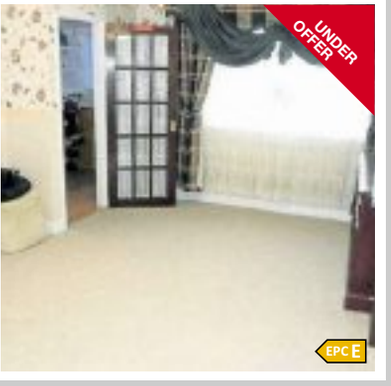
Stantonbury £220,000
- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage

Broughton £210,000
- Spacious Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Off Road Parking
- Cul-de-Sac Location

Heelands £200,000
- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner & Kitchen
- Off Road Parking

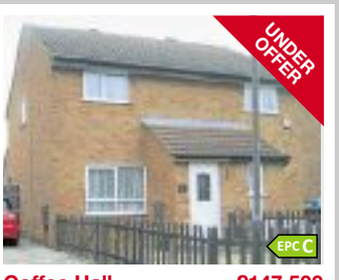
Conniburrow £197,500
- Terraced Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Gardens
- Off Road Parking

Stantonbury £195,000
- Semi Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Shower Room
- Garden
- Off Road Parking



Downhead Park £172,500
- Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- One Reception Room
- Garden & Garage

Do you live in Kingsmead? We have a number of clients looking for 3 and 4 bedroom properties in that area. Please call if you can help!



Coffee Hall £147,500
- Semi Detached Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Front & Rear Gardens

Tinkers Bridge £85,000
- One Bedroom Property
- Kitchen & Lounge
- Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking

WANTED!
3 bedroom houses in Grange Farm for two clients that just missed out on a property in that area.

TAYLORS
Estate Agents

Sales & Lettings
Bletchley 01908 850949
Kingston 01908 850954

Roxburgh Way £199,995
- Extended Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Garden
- Garage

Mill Road £290,000
- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Feature Fireplace
- Extensive Rear Garden

Buckfast Avenue £160,000
- End Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Kitchen
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Call to View

Heywood Gate £150,000
- Upper Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- En-Suite to Master

Newport Road £220,000
- Three Bedrooms
- En-Suite to Master
- Juliet Style Balconies
- One Allocated Parking Space

Smarden Bell £350,000
- Detached Bungalow
- Three Bedrooms
- Double Garage
- En-Suite to Master
- Good Condition
- Off Road Parking
- Private Garden
- Landscaped garden

Elgar Grove £250,000
- Terraced Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Front & Rear Gardens

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*Terms and conditions apply.

TAYLORS Estate Agents

Sales & Lettings
Westcroft Milton Keynes 01908 850984

Highmore Croft £350,000
- Four Bedroom Property
- Lounge & Conservatory
- Study & Dining Room
- Cloakroom
- Kitchen

Oxley Park £225,000
- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking
- No Chain

Ayrton Close £215,000
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Two En-Suites
- Excellent Condition

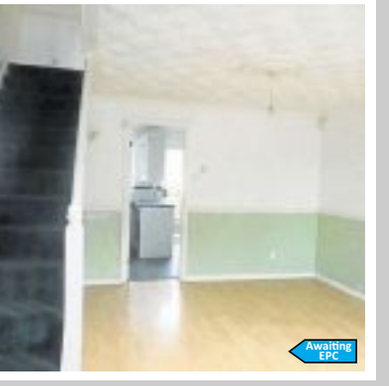
Nymans Gate £379,995
- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Two Bathrooms

Westcroft £325,000
- Four Bedrooms
- Entrance hall
- Lounge
- Kitchen

Shenley Lodge £215,000
- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen

Stafford Grove £185,000
- Two Bedrooms
- Kitchen
- Living Room
- Conservatory

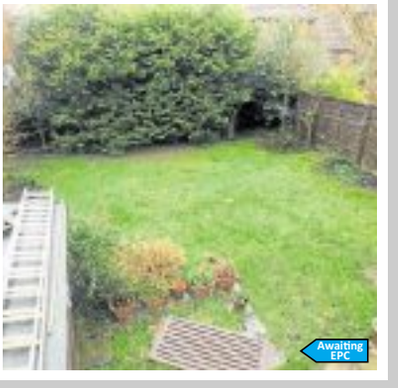
Bingham Close £165,000
- Semi Detached Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Lounge
- Gardens



WANTED!

We have 338 qualified applicants currently looking for property in Tattenhoe. Call 01908 524456 if you are looking to sell.

Nuneham Grove £255,000
- Detached Property
- Three/Four Bedrooms
- Cloakroom
- Gardens
- Driveway



Stapeley Court £37,500
- Shared Ownership
- Upper Floor Apartment
- One Bedroom
- No Chain

TAYLORS
Estate Agents

Sales & Lettings
Stony Stratford 01908 850979

Haversham £325,000
- Detached Bungalow
- Four Double Bedrooms
- Two Family Bathrooms
- Conservatory
- Single Garage

Old Stratford £250,000
- Detached Property
- Four Double Bedrooms
- En-Suite to Master
- Family Bathroom
- Lounge

Deanshanger £267,500
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Two Bathrooms

Deanshanger £190,000
- Semi Detached Property
- Extended Three Bedrooms
- Off Road Parking
- Double Glazing

Stony Stratford £190,000
- Terraced Character Property
- Three Bedrooms & Family Bathroom
- Two Reception Rooms
- Enclosed Rear Garden

Stony Stratford £190,000
- Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge/Kitchen/Diner
- Front & Rear Gardens

Whaddon £130,000
- End Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- One Reception Room
- Front & Rear Gardens

Creslow Court £120,000
- One Bedroom Maisonette Property
- Fully Refurbished
- Garden
- No Chain

Kercroft £110,000
- More Needed
- End Terraced Property
- One Bedroom
- Communal Gardens

Old Stratford £85,000
- Flat/Apartment
- One Bedroom
- Open Plan Living Space
- Viewing Recommended

WANTED

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TAYLORS
Estate Agents

Sales & Lettings
Wolverton 01908 850989
Newport Pagnell 01908 850979

Bancroft Park £280,000

- Terraced Property
- Refurbished
- Sought After Location
- Four Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Sitting Room
- Conservatory
- Half Converted Garage

Wolverton £215,000

- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Detached Single Garage
- Rear Garden

Haversham £365,000

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Cloakroom
- Utility Room

Blakelands £335,000

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Cloakroom
- Kitchen/Diner

North Crawley £315,000

- Detached Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Gardens

Newport Pagnell £310,000

- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen & Dining Room
- Conservatory

Great Linford £245,000

- Semi Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Garage
- Ideal Family Home

Newport Pagnell £245,000

- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Entrance
- Lounge/Diner

Hanslope £239,995

- Detached Thatched Cottage
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Original Exposed Beams
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room

Bradville £160,000

- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedooms
- Double Glazing
- Rear Garden

WANTED

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WANTED

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Newport Pagnell: 01908 611 388

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Emerson Valley £350,000

SOLD within three days of coming to the market with buyers who missed out. If you have a property to sell in Emmerson Valley please call 01908 606951

WANTED
PROPERTIES IN AND AROUND CMK FOR A NUMBER OF PRE QUALIFIED BUYERS

Newport Pagnell £355,000

Four bedroom detached family home in the sought after road of Flora Thrompson Drive on the poets. The property benefits from a private location, remote double garage, en-suite and conservatory.

Newport Pagnell £289,995

Four bedroom detached property within the sought after location of Newport Pagnell. The property in brief comprises cloakroom, lounge, dining room, kitchen and family bathroom.

Newport Pagnell £230,000

Spacious extended semi detached family home, the property is located in the popular family area of the poets and boasts a large kitchen/diner and two spacious reception rooms.

Giffard Park £220,000

Four bedroom extended home benefiting from re-fitted kitchen, conservatory, re-fitted en-suite and off road parking. Outside are gardens and carport providing off road parking.

Silver Street £155,000

Two bedroom home situated in the heart of newport pagnell, the property is a great starter home or investment and comprises entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, parking and a courtyard garden.

Great Linford £89,995

Luxury ground floor cottage style shared ownership apartment situated in the village of Great Linford, this property is pure class with karndean flooring, ceiling and under floor heating throughout.

Great Holm £250,000

WANTED - More properties in Great Holm for pre qualified buyers who missed out - call us on 01908 606951.

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A substantial size house that offers luxury and privacy. Located on a gated development of two houses, just off the Newton Road, is this contemporary five bedroom detached house with fittings to a high specification.

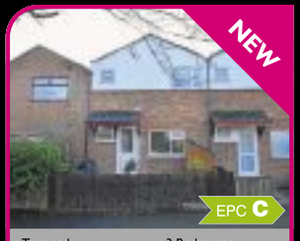
Bletchley **£440,000**

A home to be proud of....a four bedroom detached house offered for sale in excellent condition throughout. The property has spacious accommodation and is located in a popular residential area with good access to the M1 and Central Milton Keynes.

Broughton **£300,000**

Modern open plan living! This three double bedroom semi detached house is set in a cul-de-sac position.. Nearby are local schools, the Westcroft retail park, parkland and Howe Park Woods. Potential to extend subject to planning permission.

Westcroft **£269,500**



- Terraced
- Cloakroom
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- Garage

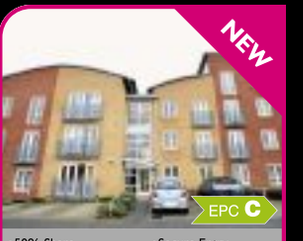
Eaglestone **£149,950**

- Semi Detached
- Immaculate Throughout
- Fantastic Area
- 3 Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Lounge
- Garage

Caldecotte **£209,950**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice Of Offer
20 Killerton Close, Westcroft, Milton Keynes MK4 4GA. We advise that an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of £189,950. Any persons wishing to increase on this offer should notify the agents of their best offer prior to exchange of contracts. EPC Rating C.



- 50% Share
- Ground Floor
- 2 Bedrooms
- Open Plan
- Secure Entry
- Communal Gardens
- Allocated Parking
- Well Presented

Medbourne **£67,500**

- Semi Detached
- 3 Bedrooms
- Garage
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- Bathroom
- Gardens
- Excellently Presented

Wavendon Gate **£209,995**

LET AGREED on the repainted two bedroom maisonette, within walking distance to Central Milton Keynes. If you have a similar property please contact us today on 01908 690700. FEES APPLY

Bradwell Common pcm **£700**

A semi-detached bungalow comprising entrance hall, lounge/diner, kitchen, two bedrooms and recently refitted bathroom. Externally the property benefits from front and rear gardens, with decking area and parking. FEES APPLY

Bletchley pcm **£850**

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LANDLORDS WANTED

LET AGREED on this two bedroom apartment with a garage. If you have a similar property please contact us today on 01908 690700. FEES APPLY

Central Milton Keynes pcm **£850**

LET AGREED on this immaculate one bedroom apartment located in a popular area. If you have a similar property please contact us today on 01908 690700. FEES APPLY

The HUB pcm **£950**

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Estate agent fee comparison

Sale Price	Typical 1.5% fee inc. VAT	Our Fee based on our 0.5% option
£100,000	£1,800	£999
£150,000	£2,700	£999
£200,000	£3,600	£1,000
£250,000	£4,500	£1,250
£300,000	£5,400	£1,500
£350,000	£6,300	£1,750
£400,000	£7,200	£2,000
£450,000	£8,100	£2,250
£500,000	£9,000	£2,500

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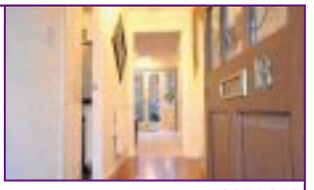
Monday to Friday 9:00 to 7:00pm
Saturdays 9:00 am to 4:00pm

KINGSMEAD £264,950

- Semi detached townhouse
- Four bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen/diner
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Family bathroom
- Shower room
- Conservatory



SHENLEY BROOK END £254,950

- Three storey townhouse
- Four bedrooms
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Fitted kitchen
- Lounge/diner
- En suite to master
- Immaculate throughout
- Extensive rear garden

WESTCROFT £254,950

- Semi detached
- Four bedrooms
- Separate lounge
- Cloakroom
- En suite to master
- Bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Garage & carport

SHENLEY BROOK END O.I.E.O £459,950

- Detached home
- Four bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining room
- Cloakroom
- Utility room
- En-suite to master
- Rrear garden

WESTCROFT £395,000

- Detached home
- Five bedrooms
- Cloakroom
- Open plan living
- Utility Area
- Study
- Three bathrooms
- Double garage

PENNYLAND £325,000

- Townhouse
- Four bedrooms
- Refitted kitchen
- Versatile living
- Family Room
- cloakroom
- Garage
- Canal views

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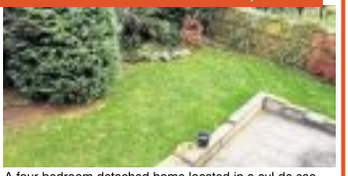
UNFURNISHED FAMILY HOME IN EMERSON VALLEY £1,150 PCM



A four bedroom detached home located in a cul de sac. There are TWO RECEPTIONS, kitchen/breakfast room with appliances, EN SUITE to master bedroom, single garage and gardens. Available immediately. Additional fees apply.

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION REDUCED TO £1,300 PCM

A SUPERB three bedroom townhouse located close to CMK and it's many amenities. Offered UNFURNISHED and AVAILABLE NOW. This property MUST BE VIEWED TO FULLY APPRECIATE ALL IT HAS TO OFFER. Additional fees apply.

CAMPBELL PARK £700 PCM

A TWO BEDROOM top floor apartment located close to Central Milton Keynes and theatre district. The property is offered UNFURNISHED and is AVAILABLE NOW! MUST BE VIEWED!! Additional fees apply.

BRADWELL COMMON £750 PCM

A WELL PRESENTED and EXTENDED home with a refitted kitchen, TWO RECEPTIONS, TWO BEDROOMS, bathroom, garden and off road parking. Available from 26th February and offered UNFURNISHED. Additional fees apply.

NEATH HILL £795 PCM

A RECENTLY REFURBISHED THREE BEDROOM home with kitchen/diner, lounge, conservatory, refitted bathroom, garage and gardens. Offered UNFURNISHED and AVAILABLE NOW. Additional fees apply.

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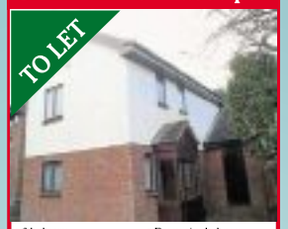
WOLVERTON £95,000

- One bedroom
- First floor maisonette
- Double glazed windows
- Additional attic room
- Off road parking
- Rear garden
- Ideal investment/first time buy
- No upper chain
- Energy rating E

WOLVERTON £175,000

- 3 bedrooms
- Semi detached
- Separate reception rooms
- UPVC double glazing
- Gas to radiator heating
- Front and rear gardens
- No upper chain
- Energy Rating D

GREENLEYS £850 pcm



- 3 bedrooms
- Detached house
- Kitchen with appliances
- Re-decorated & new carpets
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Driveway & garage
- References & deposit required
- Tenant Fees £150

WOLVERTON £195,000

- 4 bedrooms
- Two en-suites
- Full cellar
- Re-fitted upstairs bathroom
- Separate reception rooms
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Single garage to the rear
- Energy Rating E

WOLVERTON £175,000

- 3 bedrooms
- Semi detached house
- Separate reception homes
- Extended downstairs shower room
- Upstairs bathroom
- Gas to radiator heating
- No upper chain
- Energy Rating D

WOLVERTON £195,000

- 3 bedrooms
- Re-fitted kitchen/breakfast room
- Upstairs bathroom
- Lounge through dining room
- Original features
- Utility/cloakroom
- Gas to radiator heating
- One & a half width garage
- Energy Rating E

WOLVERTON £155,000

- 2 bedrooms
- Upstairs bathroom
- Lounge / dining room
- Solid Oak flooring
- Re-fitted combination boiler
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Re-fitted carpets upstairs
- Energy rating D

WOLVERTON £160,000

- 3 bedrooms
- End of terrace
- UPVC double glazing (w/s)
- Re-fitted kitchen
- Re-fitted bathroom
- Gas to radiator heating
- No upper chain
- Energy rating E

WOLVERTON £195,000

- 3 bedrooms
- Completely re-furbished
- Brand new upstairs bathroom
- Brand new kitchen with integrated appliances
- Re-wired & re-plastered
- Downstairs cloakroom
- No upper chain
- Energy Rating D

CROWNHILL £65,000

- 1 bedroom
- 50% Shared Ownership
- Mid terrace house
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Open plan lounge & kitchen/diner
- Galleried bedroom
- Enclosed rear garden
- Off road parking
- No upper chain
- Energy Rating D

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Aspley Guise £1,450pcm

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WOBURN £2,500pcm

An impressive four bedroom property located in the heart of Woburn, benefiting from two reception rooms and en suite. Unfurnished. Avail Now.

WOBURN SANDS £895pcm

A three bedroom property located at the end of a cul de sac location, benefiting from garage and off road parking. Unfurnished. Available Now.

WOBURN £813pcm

A unique, large one bedroom apartment situated over two floors, located in the heart of Woburn. Unfurnished. Available 10/02. 12 month let.

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY £709pcm

A one bedroom mid terrace property with off road parking and brick outbuilding. Unfurnished. Available Now. 12 month min contract.

POTSGROVE £1,834pcm

A two double bedroom detached property, situated in a rural location, with double garage and large gardens. Unfurnished. Available Now. Min 12 month contract.

SALFORD £2,300pcm

A stunning six bedroom character property on a plot of 1 1/2 acre garden, situated in a rural location. Unfurnished. Avail Now. Rent inc. gardener.

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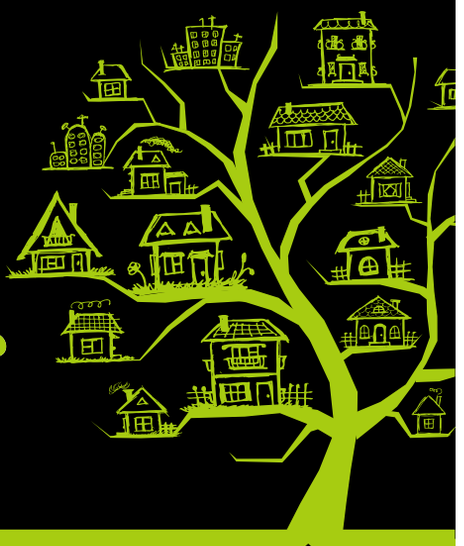

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ADVERTORIAL

Consumer confidence grows as the local housing market continues to strengthen

Increased activity in the local housing market assisted by the Government backed Help to Buy scheme and a greater availability of higher loan-to-value mortgages has led to a growth in consumer confidence, according to local leading estate and lettings agency Taylors in Milton Keynes.

These findings are confirmed in the results of the third exclusive survey Countrywide plc, the UK's largest property services group, conducted with YouGov. Taylors is part of Countrywide plc, who conducted the study to investigate important factors affecting the current housing market in Great Britain.

The YouGov research surveyed over 2,000 Great British adults and its findings identified improved consumer confidence in the housing market when compared to the results of Countrywide plc's last survey in November 2012.

The research showed that 51% of homeowners in Great Britain think the value of their current home will increase in 12 months time, an increase of 17% compared to the November 2012 survey results.

The expectation of rising prices has grown most quickly in the East of England with only 29% of respondents who thought the price of their property would increase in 2013 compared to 61% of respondents who indicated that they think the price of their property will increase in 2014.

The results of the survey also revealed that in Great Britain over half (56%) of 18-24 year olds believe they are likely to use the Help to Buy scheme compared to around a quarter of those aged between 25-54 years.

Location is the most important factor when buying a property. 36% of people who stated they plan to buy a property within the next 3 years would be least likely to compromise on location. This rises to 47% among 35-44 year olds compared with just 26% of 18-24 year olds.

Just under 1 in 5 (18%) of GB adults are currently prevented from buying a property or moving home because they are unable to afford a deposit, this is a decrease of 5% when compared to the November 2012 survey results.

Around a third of private renters think they are likely to use the Help to Buy scheme to purchase a property in the next three years, around double the 16% of homeowners who are considering it.

George Burden Regional Manager for Taylors Estate Agents in Milton Keynes, commented:
"The results of the YouGov survey confirm what we see on a daily basis. The housing market is moving forward at a steady pace and consumers are more enthused with the current housing market conditions. The local housing market in Milton Keynes is buoyant and properties that are well presented and correctly priced are selling well. However, demand from buyers for property in the local area is outstripping the supply of property coming on the market and due to this we now need more properties to sell."

"We expect to see more first time buyers and homeowners enter the housing market this year, as the property market and wider economic conditions show further signs of improvement and these results would back up that view."

For further information about the local housing market and the YouGov survey results, please contact Taylors in Central Milton Keynes by telephone on 01908 678151 or email manager.centralmiltonkeynes@taylorsestateagents.co.uk.

Countrywide integrated solutions local expertise

TAYLORS Estate Agents

About Countrywide plc
Taylors Estate Agents is part of Countrywide plc, the UK's largest integrated property services Group, including the largest estate agency and lettings network, operates more than 1,300 associated branches across the UK.

Countrywide plc's network of expertise helps more people move than any other business in the UK and is a leading provider of estate agency, lettings, mortgage services, land and new homes, auctions, surveying, conveyancing, corporate property management services and Commercial property.

Countrywide plc's award-winning service has earned the business 142 high-profile industry awards in the last five years, with customers voting Countrywide Best Large Chain – National category, at the 2013 ESTA awards.
Other awards include our Land & New Homes team was named the UK's Best New Homes Agent at the Estate Agency of the Year Awards 2012 and Countrywide Surveying Services and Countrywide Conveyancing Services won the award for Best Anti-Fraud Measure at the Mortgage Finance Gazette Awards 2012.

About the Countrywide/YouGov survey:
All figures, unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc. Total sample size was 2,065 GB adults aged 18+. Fieldwork was undertaken between 20th -23rd December 2013. The survey was carried out online. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all GB adults (aged 18+).
November study: Total sample size was 2152 adults.
Fieldwork was undertaken between 7th - 9th November 2012.

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General Vacancies

Phoenix primary care

We are an expanding organisation delivering high quality care from 10 GP Practices and a Walk-in-centre in the Midlands and the South of England.

We have the following vacancies within our
Kingsway & Petros Practices, Luton

Practice Manager
Flexible hours - Permanent Post

We are seeking to recruit an experienced Practice Manager to manage our Kingsway & Petros practices in Luton with a combined growing list size of 15000 patients.

This is an exciting opportunity for a suitably experienced and high achieving Practice Manager looking for a new challenge. Candidates will need to demonstrate a high degree of motivation, flexibility and dedication, the ability to proactively manage all staff inclusive of GP's and Nurses supported by senior operational directors.

The successful applicant will work across two sites and be supported by two senior admin staff.

Attractive salary and terms & conditions including NHS pension.

Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP)
Up to 37.5 hours
Practice Nurses - Up to 37.5

We are seeking an Advanced Nurse Practitioner and Practice nurses for our Kingsway practice and Practice nurses for our Petros surgery in Luton..This is an exciting opportunity for a suitably qualified ANP's and Practice nurses, committed to contributing positively to the Practices and working with an established and committed practice team.

We are a GP led organisation with attractive terms & conditions, NHS pensions & flexible working.

Closing date for applications Friday 21st February 2014, interviews week commencing 24th February.

If you are interested please forward your CV and covering letter by e-mail to John Brett, Director of Operations & Performance, Phoenix Primary Care Limited. Informal enquiries welcome, please call 07872905361 or 0121 325 2095. e-mail john.brett@walsall.nhs.uk

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Key Stage 2 Teacher
September 2014

Bedford Modern School.

Bedford Modern is a HMC co-educational independent day school, educating 1200 students from age 7 to 18. We wish to appoint an excellent Key Stage 2 Teacher to join our busy and thriving Junior School team.

You will be an inspirational classroom practitioner with the ability to motivate and enthuse children. You will be able to challenge children through innovative activities and be passionate about their learning. You should be eager to develop yourself professionally and be willing to make a positive impact on the School.

We are a friendly, enthusiastic and hardworking staff, working as part of a supportive and cohesive team in a school where the children are happy and keen to learn.

Salaries are based on The Harpur Trust Teaching Scale which is above the national average. All posts are subject to enhanced DBS clearance.

Further information, including a detailed job description and application pack is available from our website at www.bedmod.co.uk.

Closing date: Mid-day 21 February 2014
Interview date: 11 March 2014

Bedford Modern School is part of The Harpur Trust.

bedmod.co.uk

Pip Bayleys Limited Blunham Beds MK443DE Seeks Truck & Trailer Technicians

- Scania experience a benefit but not essential
- Training will be given
- Excellent team atmosphere
- Top rates of pay (Weekly)

Call Pip on 07860 327131 or email pip.bayley@Scania.com

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SENIOR DESIGNER

As a dynamic design agency based south of Milton Keynes, we are seeking a hungry and talented Senior Designer to work across a diverse range of business sectors.

Are you a highly-motivated senior graphic designer with over 8 years experience? You will have the ability to respond to challenging briefs with conceptually brilliant ideas & have the ability to turn your hand to designing anything from logos to packaging, point of sale to websites. Outstanding typography and obsessive attention to detail. Commercially minded creative who can quickly understand what a client is trying to achieve.... **if so, we can't wait to hear from you!**

Please send your CV & salary expectations to
martin@whiteleopard.co.uk

WHITE LEOPARD.

General Vacancies

We are now urgently seeking skilled candidates for the available positions as stated below and welcome suitable applicants. All positions are under PAYE with the benefits of paid holiday, etc and wages are processed weekly.

CAVITY WALL & LOFT INSULATION INSTALLERS
Insulation Division

Experience not essential, full training will be provided through EnergyCare training academy.

EnergyCare is expanding the cavity wall and loft installation division. We require candidates to form part of our team which will operate from our Kempston depot.

The role will entail visiting private homes to install cavity wall and loft installation under the Government ECO / Green Deal scheme.

Pay per completed job based on property type (average £500 to £1200 per week).

Company vehicle, fuel card and uniform provided.
Full driving licence required.

HEATING ENGINEERS
Heating Division

Experienced and qualified engineers are urgently required for our expanding heating and boiler division.

Qualifications must include each of the following: CCN1, CPA1, HTR1, CENWAT, CKR1 and Gas Safe Registration. All work is provided on a daily diary via email.

Expected earnings range from £28,000 to £50,000 per annum. (productivity dependant).

Company vehicle, fuel card and uniform provided.
Full driving licence required.

EnergyCare KEEPING BRITAIN WARM GROUP

To apply for any position, please send a CV to
energycareltd@btconnect.com
or 1 Appley Court, Appley Wood Corner, Haynes, Beds, MK45 3QQ.
Please also specify which position you are applying for.

Teacher of English (Maternity Cover)
May 2014

Bedford Modern School.

Bedford Modern is a friendly, happy and supportive HMC co-educational independent day school, educating 1200 students from age 7 to 18.

We are seeking to appoint a passionate and dynamic English graduate to cover maternity leave beginning May 2014, although there may be some flexibility with regard to the start date and there is the possibility of this becoming a permanent position. You will be required to teach English Language and Literature at KS3, KS4 and KS5. NQTs and experienced teachers are invited to apply.

The School has an exceptionally strong and well-resourced English Faculty. In 2013 the Faculty achieved 76% A*- A at IGCSE and 66% A* at A Level Literature.

Salaries are based on The Harpur Trust Teaching Scale which is above the national average. All posts are subject to enhanced DBS clearance.

Further information, including a detailed job description and application pack is available from our website at www.bedmod.co.uk.

Closing date: Mid-day 24 February 2014
Interview date: 03 March 2014

Bedford Modern School is part of The Harpur Trust.

bedmod.co.uk

DON'T WAIT FOR YOUR PERFECT JOB
- PLACE YOUR CV ONLINE WITH US NOW!

Jobsnow www.jobsnow.co.uk

MK JOB SHOW 25 JANUARY 2014 : 10AM - 6PM thecentre:mk Main Sponsor VOLKSWAGEN FINANCIAL SERVICES Media Partner MKWEB MKNEWS
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BEDFORD SCHOOL

HMC BOARDING AND DAY
710 Boys; 290 Sixth Form

TEACHER OF GERMAN

An enthusiastic, well qualified linguist is required for September 2014 to join a large and successful modern languages department to teach German, including to native speakers. Though a second language is not a prerequisite it would be an advantage. The School offers French, German and Spanish at IGCSE, A Level and IB as well as an extensive Mandarin programme.

A willingness to take an active part in the life of the School is essential and the ability to coach games would be an advantage.

The School is fully accredited to participate in the ISC NQT Induction Programme in order to provide qualified teacher status.

The School has its own salary scale which is well above the national scale. Accommodation may be available and there is generous fee remission for children of teaching staff of the Harpur Trust Schools in Bedford.

Further details are available from **Sarah Lapidge, Bedford School, De Parys Avenue, Bedford MK40 2TU tel: 01234 362214 fax: 01234 362283 email: slapidge@bedfordschool.org.uk.**

A copy of the job description and an application form is available to download from the School's website. Applications should be returned to the Head Master no later than midday on Monday 24th February 2014. Please note that CVs will not be considered.

www.bedfordschool.org.uk

The Harpur Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The successful applicant will be subject to an Enhanced DBS check, references and other checks.

Bedford School is part of the Harpur Trust

Closing Date
Monday 24 Feb 2014 (12noon)
Interview Date
Wednesday 5 March 2014

BEDFORD FREE SCHOOL
SERVING BEDFORD & KEMPSTON

Teachers
£24,745-£36,360

Business Manager
£34,340-£45,000

Technician (Design Technology)
£14,160-£18,180 pro rata

Closing Date: **Midday, Tuesday 18 February**
(Interviews commencing: Monday 24 February)

We are looking to recruit outstanding professionals to join our team. Our staff will:

- share our values of respect, honesty and high expectations
- believe every student is capable of the highest level of academic and personal success and go the extra mile for our students and their families
- have the ability to inspire students to ensure they achieve the best possible individual outcomes within an aspirational environment.

We are a small, intimate school where staff and students know each other and look out for each other. Safeguarding children enrolled at the School is of paramount importance, and we are fully committed to the protection and safe care of our students. The successful applicants will be required to undertake appropriate checks as well as providing proof of their right to work in the UK.

Small school, big curriculum, infinite possibilities.

Further information on these vacancies and application forms will be available at **www.bedfordfreeschool.co.uk**

With over 500 staff and 12 regional branches covering much of southern England, the Midlands and south Wales, we've been wiring new homes for the UK's leading house builders for more than 30 years. We are now recruiting for our new branch in Milton Keynes.

Electricians

If you're a qualified electrician with experience of wiring new homes, you thrive on taking responsibility and you like being paid on price, you'd fit in well.

In this long-term permanent position you'll work on new housing developments in your local area.

We'll supply a company van, uniform, PPE and power tools and your kit will be bagged up ready every day. So you can concentrate on making money – typically £500 to £800 plus per week.

Apprentice Electricians

We can offer you unrivalled training with the opportunity to progress with us once qualified.

You'll get real experience working as part of a team on new housing developments in the local area, attending our training centre on a day release basis.

You need to be aged 18+, hold a full driving licence and have good GCSE grades in English and maths.

To find out more about either position, visit our web site and click on 'recruitment' or scan the QR code.

www.clarksonevans.co.uk

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SURREY STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL
Cutenhoe Community Learning Park, Cutenhoe Road, Luton LU1 3NJ

3 x Teaching Assistant 1

£11,039 - £12,055 p.a. **Vacancy ID: 100778**
32 hours per week, term-time only

Required as soon as possible and in September

Surrey Street is a popular and welcoming primary school near the centre of Luton. We have recently moved to a larger site as we continue our expansion. Do you have a passion for working with primary age children and the skills to enhance the learning experience of our pupils?

We are looking for committed TAs to support children and teachers in classes and at lunchtime:

- To cover maternity leave, starting in May
- To support children with Special Needs on a one to one basis
- To join our new classes in September

These posts are for 32 hours a week, 8.40 to 3.40, term time only.

Visits to school are encouraged. Please call the school office for available visiting dates – 01582748810.

Application forms can be downloaded from www.surreystreetprimary.com and once completed can be emailed to surrey.street.primary.admin@luton.gov.uk

Closing date: 28 February 2014 at 9.30am
Interview date: w/c 10 March 2014
Please note that References will be taken up before interview.

CVs will not be accepted for any posts based in schools.
Schools are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expect all staff to share this commitment.
Applicants must be willing to undergo child/vulnerable adult protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with previous employers and a Criminal Record check.

We value equality because quality services need the best people - from the whole community.

LUTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

BEDFORD SCHOOL

HMC BOARDING AND DAY
710 Boys; 290 Sixth Form

HEAD OF MFL

We wish to appoint a suitably qualified and inspirational linguist to Head the Modern Foreign Languages Department at this highly successful boys' school from September 2014. The School offers French, German and Spanish at IGCSE, A Level and IB as well as an extensive Mandarin programme.

A willingness to take an active part in the life of this large boarding and day School is essential. The School has its own salary scale which is well above the national scale. Help with accommodation may be available and there is generous fee remission for children of teaching staff of the Harpur Trust Schools in Bedford.

Further details are available from **Sarah Lapidge, Bedford School, De Parys Avenue, Bedford MK40 2TU tel: 01234 362214 fax: 01234 362283 email: slapidge@bedfordschool.org.uk.**

A copy of the job description and an application form is available to download from the School's website. Applications should be returned to the Head Master no later than midday on Monday 24th February 2014. Please note that CVs will not be considered.

www.bedfordschool.org.uk

The Harpur Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The successful applicant will be subject to an Enhanced DBS check, references and other checks.

Bedford School is part of the Harpur Trust

Closing Date
Monday 24 Feb 2014 (12noon)
Interview Date
Monday 3 March 2014

Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSE

BASED AT SERVICE HEADQUARTERS, KEMPSTON

£24,892 to £27,323 per annum pro rata
Fixed Term Contract for 12 Months
(with possibility of becoming permanent)
Hours: 18.5 hours per week (Monday, Tuesday, alternate Wednesday)

This is an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic, self-motivated Occupational Health Nurse to contribute to the provision of a comprehensive and proactive Occupational Health Service to BFRS and to work as a key member of the Occupational Health team, responsible for providing a high quality service focussing on pro-active clinical provision.

You will be required to plan and undertake Health Promotion activities and undertake medical screening and health surveillance. You will also be required to interpret data and present the results in report form as required.

To deliver the above you will have excellent organisational, interpersonal and communication skills with the ability to work independently and as part of a team.

You will be a Registered Nurse holding an Occupational Health qualification (Diploma/Degree or equivalent) and have significant Occupational Health experience (post qualification).

You will be required to travel across and out of the County and should therefore hold a current full driving licence with no issues pending and have access to transport.

There is a requirement that Corporate Clothing will be worn by the successful candidate.

An application form, job description and personnel specification, together with other relevant details may be obtained from www.bedsfire.com where the advertisement will be published under 'Careers and Recruitment'. Alternatively, if you are unable to access a computer, please contact the Human Resources Section on 01234 845025.

Completed application forms must be returned no later than Friday 28th February 2014.

Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue Service is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from people from ethnic minorities and disabled people who are currently under-represented in this area of work within the Service.

POSITIVE ABOUT DISABLED PEOPLE

www.jobsnow.co.uk www.jobsnow.co.uk

Walton High

Bringing out the very best in young people

Fyfield Barrow Milton Keynes MK7 7WH
Tel. 01908 677954 www.waltonhigh.org.uk
Executive Principal: Michelle Currie

Walton High welcomes applicants who wish to contribute to this high achieving and innovative centre of learning.

We have the following teaching vacancies:

Maths Key Stage 4 Subject Leader TLR1
English Teacher (MPR/UPR)
Maths Teacher (MPR/UPR)
Physics Teacher (MPR/UPR)
Science Teacher (MPR/UPR)
History Teacher (MPR)
Health and Social Care Teacher (MPR/UPR)
Performing Arts Teacher (MPR Temporary/Permanent)
Music or Drama specialism preferred.

Support staff vacancies:

Behaviour Support Assistant
Term time only, 37 hours per week
MK4 £15,882 - £18,638 pro rata

Learning Support Assistant
Term time only, 37 hours per week
MK4 £15,882 - £18,638 pro rata

Afternoon/Evening Cleaners
Full time/Term time only
£6.44 per hour + holiday pay

Saturday Cleaners
Full time/Term time only
2 hours per week (afternoon/evening)
£6.44 per hour + holiday pay

For an application form, please visit our website www.waltonhigh.org.uk or for further details, contact Human Resources on 01908 247600 (24 hours)

Closing date: midday on Monday 24 February 2014

Walton High is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. These posts require an enhanced DBS check.

Milton Keynes Education Trust
Enabling • Enhancing • Enriching

MKET

www.waltonhigh.org.uk

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Tel: 01908 242490
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CAN

CAN is an established and thriving agency, providing a range of drug, alcohol and homelessness services throughout Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire

We have the following job opportunities working within our Substance Misuse CAN Partnership service Bedfordshire

- **CAL's (Community Alcohol Liaison) Practitioner - Bedford Central**
- **Recovery Practitioner - Bedford**

Full and part time opportunities available for this post

- **Adult Safeguarding Lead (SOVA Investigator) - Bedfordshire**
- **Receptionist/Admin Assistant - Bedford**

For full details visit our website www.can.org.uk

CAN offers competitive salaries, 24 and 26 days annual leave depending on post, plus statutory days, pension scheme and development opportunities.

Closing date for returned applications is 5pm, Monday 24th February 2014

Alternatively e mail recruitment@can.org.uk, fax 01604 635679, write to HR, 8 Billing Road, Northampton, NN1 5AW to request an application pack.

Equal opportunities matter at CAN

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

©LW

At Milton Keynes, we're supporting the growth of our vibrant city while continuing to deliver excellent services. It's an exciting place to be and we're keen to get the balance right - including the work-life balance. So if you're looking for family friendly benefits and the chance to make a difference, make a move to MKC.

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

Customer Liaison Officer

18 hours per week
£21,067 – £25,727 pro rata **Ref: 50020356**
Proposed Salary: £17,980 - £19,317 pro rata

Our Referral Hub looks after the many requests that we receive from professionals, families and members of the public for our Children's Practices. You'll help to assess and prioritise referrals, advising our customers as to the services available and guiding them where their needs fall outside our remit. An approachable, diplomatic and firm approach is needed, along with superb organisational, typing and IT skills. Detail-focussed, you will record important information meticulously and be able to act on your own initiative. Any understanding of social services would be beneficial.

For informal enquiries, please contact Toni Mearns or Oonagh Moriarty on 01908 253169

Support Worker

£12,266 – £12,435 pro rata **Ref: 50018599**
Proposed Salary - £13,725 - £15,598 pro rata
20 hours per week

Courteney Lodge and Flowers House provide 24-hour support to help people with dementia live independently. Using a council vehicle, you'll collect and deliver lunch meals, helping to clean up before returning the used equipment. You will also help order provisions and provide a shopping/domestic service to tenants. Essentially, you need a clean, manual driving licence and a willingness to work a 7-day rota shift, including every other weekend. Any commercial kitchen experience is ideal, as is a Food Hygiene certificate Level 2 (we will support you to study for this however), but as important is your friendly, organised and motivated outlook.

For informal enquiries, please contact Janice Beaton (Flowers House) on 01908 253555 or Sarah-Jane Copeman (Courtney's Lodge) on 01908 502947

Control Centre Operator / Mobile Warden

£17,980 - £21,734 **Ref: 50011144**
Proposed Salary - £17,980 - £19,317

(plus shifts/weekend working enhancements)
You'll respond to emergencies and deal with alarm equipment when acting as a Mobile Warden based in the community, Or on other shifts you'll work as an Operator at our Alarm Receiving Centre assessing and escalating responses to alarm calls and out-of-hours services. Either way , you'll be helping our service users live independently in their own homes. The ability to make emergency decisions, cover shifts at short notice and use multiple IT systems will be essential, together with a calm, patient approach, excellent communication skills and an eye for detail. This service operates on a 24 hour basis, every day of the year. You will work a pattern that supports this, for which additional payments will be received.

All roles are subject to safer recruitment practices.

Milton Keynes Council is working jointly with the Trade Unions on the introduction of a new Job Evaluation scheme for all single status posts. Therefore the following adverts contain the current salary of the post plus the proposed salary following the outcome of the Job Evaluation exercise. It is anticipated that the new pay arrangements will commence from the 01 April 2014.

Closing Date for all applications is 2nd March 2014

To apply online visit: www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/jobs-careers For an application form, email: jobs@milton-keynes.gov.uk Please quote appropriate reference. Salaries will normally start at the first point of the grade. We are unable to accept CVs, unless accompanied by a completed application form.

It's ability, not disability that counts

BEDFORD SCHOOL

HMC BOARDING AND DAY
715 Boys; 300 Sixth Form

TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS

We are looking to appoint a talented and well qualified Mathematician for September 2014 to join our highly successful Mathematics Department. This exciting post represents an excellent opportunity to teach motivated boys in well-resourced classrooms. The Department enjoys considerable popularity amongst the boys (over 200 students studying A level or International Baccalaureate Mathematics in the Sixth Form, including 20 taking Further Mathematics in each year). The Mathematics Department is a strong department with nine full-time staff and four part-time staff and consistently excellent results are achieved. The ability to teach throughout the school, including A Level, is essential and the successful applicant would have the opportunity to teach A Level Further Mathematics and Higher Level IB in order to continue their professional development. The post might suit either an experienced teacher seeking to broaden his/her experience or a relatively new entrant to the profession.

A willingness to take an active part in the wider life of a busy boarding and day School is essential and the ability to coach games, especially one of the School's major sports, would be an advantage.

The School is fully accredited to participate in the ISC NQT Induction Programme in order to provide qualified teacher status.

The School has its own salary scale which is well above the national scale. Accommodation may be available and there is generous fee remission for children of teaching staff of the Harpur Trust Schools in Bedford.

Further details are available from **Sarah Lapidge, Bedford School, De Parys Avenue, Bedford MK40 2TU tel: 01234 362214 fax: 01234 362283 email: slapidge@bedfordschool.org.uk.**

A copy of the job description and an application form is available to download from the School's website. Applications should be returned to the Head Master no later than midday on Monday 3rd March 2014. Please note that CVs will not be considered.

www.bedfordschool.org.uk

The Harpur Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The successful applicant will be subject to an Enhanced DBS check, references and other checks.

Bedford School is part of the Harpur Trust

Closing Date
Monday 3 March 2014 (12noon)
Interview Date
Friday 7th March 2014

hawkins FAMILY LAW

PA TO SENIOR SOLICITOR

Hawkins Family Law require a full time Personal Assistant to provide confidential secretarial support in our friendly family law practice in Stony Stratford. Suitable candidates should be well presented, confident with liaising with clients and prioritising a busy workload. Outstanding communication and organisational skills are required along with excellent copy and audio typing speeds. In addition you should have the ability to multi-task and manage deadlines. Knowledge of MS office/digital dictation/data management systems are necessary. Legal experience is essential.

Please apply with your CV and a covering letter to Mrs Lynne Thompson, The Old Court House, 19 Market Square, Stony Stratford MK11 1BE or email lt@hawkinsfamilylaw.co.uk

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MKNEWS

TAYLORS Estate Agents

Due to the rising market share, Taylors Estate Agents now require motivated individuals to join their extremely successful sales and mortgage services team in the Milton Keynes area.

Yes, it's hard work and long hours but, it's also rewarding and a fantastic opportunity for those who are looking for a career and not just a job!

If you are prepared to work hard and give 100% commitment then please send your CV with a covering letter to George Burden at

george.burden@countrywide.co.uk

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Autism Bedfordshire

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

CHILD SERVICES (37.5 hours / week)

Responsibilities: management of summer schemes; family activity groups; youth clubs and staff teams; helpline calls; arranging and delivering training.

Essential Skills & Experience: planning and management; IT and project management; leadership, management and training; car owner/ driver Desirable: experience/ knowledge of autism; knowledge and experience of EYFS and Ofsted.

Hours include regular Saturdays and evenings. The post is based in Bedford and involves delivering services **countywide.**

Salary: £18,375 - £25,796 plus stakeholder pension.

01234 350704 / enquiries@autismbeds.org

Closing date: 12 noon 20th February 2014. Interviews: 25th & 26th February 2014

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www.jobsnow.co.uk www.jobsnow.co.uk

JobsNOW Help Centre

www.jobsnow.co.uk

Information provided on these pages is intended for general information purposes only and does not constitute legal or other professional advice.

Your CV

When you send your CV off to a potential employer, remember that you won't be the only one. Hundreds of other people could be applying for the job as well.

So what are you going to do to make you stand out from the crowd? Why should an employer take a chance on you instead of someone else?

Your CV is your first real chance to sell yourself to a potential employer. Most employers will scan through a CV in about 30 seconds so you need to grab their attention from the start - and make them want to invite you for an interview.

There are five main areas to consider when writing your CV:

• Make sure your CV looks the part. Your CV should look clean and tidy - don't scrawl it out on a piece of A4 paper. If you haven't got access to a PC or printer, ask a friend or use your local library. Use a good quality paper and steer clear of fancy borders and front covers.

• Watch out for silly spelling and grammar mistakes. They make you look lazy and show employers that you don't really care. It's not difficult to do a spell check on your PC and if you're really stuck then don't just guess, reach for a dictionary. Get a friend to read through your CV for you - a second opinion is always useful.

• Make sure your CV is well organised. When you list your previous jobs, make sure the dates are correct and try not to leave any gaps. If you took time out to go travelling then say so - employers won't mark you down just because you've tried something new.

• Don't waffle. Remember that employers don't have time to read every word of your CV. Long paragraphs and sentences put people off, so try bullet-points to break up text. Make sure your CV is no longer than two pages long - employers don't want your life history, they just want to see that you've got what it takes to do the job.

• Don't list any failures. Employers have enough trouble finding someone who is right for the job - they don't need help finding reasons not to employ you. If you have to include a mistake from your past, make sure you show the employer that you learnt something from the experience.

Keep it simple

Personal details

Start off with your full name, address, home and mobile phone numbers and email address . If you are offered an interview, the employer will want to get hold of you so give him as many options as possible.

Summary/professional profile

This is the No1 area for selling yourself. Set out your main skills and personal qualities but keep it interesting and tight - one paragraph should do to cover everything.

Education and qualifications

List your qualifications and education history, with the most recent first. You don't need to list the grades for each exam you have passed unless they were exceptional results - simply listing the number and type of exams you've passed is fine. Also, list any relevant professional organisations you belong to and training courses you have been on.

Work experience

Start with your most recent position and work backwards, giving addresses along with start and finish dates. Set out your main responsibilities, duties and most importantly achievements, along with any skills you picked up or improvements you made while you were there. This is a really important section in your CV so make it count - but don't waffle.

If you have not had a full-time job before, detail any part-time jobs you may have held or any placement you have been on.

Other skills

Set out any computer skills you may have and the software you are most familiar with. Can you type, do shorthand or speak a foreign language fluently? If you have a driving licence, let the employer know. If it's clean, tell them.

Interests & hobbies

Briefly list what you get up to in your spare time. Put down any positions you hold in clubs or associations, along with any responsibilities and achievements.

References

Make sure you have at least two people (including one from your previous or current job) who will tell an employer what a thoroughly nice person you are and what a potential asset to the company you would be.

If you want to list them now make sure you include their name, job title, postal & e-mail address and contact phone numbers. Alternatively, just put "Available on request" so the employer knows to follow up references at a later date.

Add a covering letter

The main aim of a covering letter is to encourage an employer to give you a chance. You want them to read your CV, so sell it to them. You should always enclose a covering letter when applying for a job - most employers won't consider you unless you do.

A covering letter should let the employer know why you are interested in the job and why you think you can do it.

The hints and tips below should point you in the right direction:

• Keep it simple. A covering letter should be short and to the point - no more than six paragraphs.

• Mention the job. If you are replying to an advert, mention what the job is and where you saw it. The company may be advertising for other positions and it may not be clear which job you are applying for.

• Sell yourself. Explain why you are the perfect candidate for the job. Show off your strengths and experience. Refer to your CV - if it goes missing then at least an employer will know that you've sent it.

• Check it for mistakes. A silly spelling mistake in a covering letter is likely to cost you your chance of getting an interview. Also, make sure it is addressed to the right person in the right department.

A covering letter can be just as important as a CV in getting you an interview. It's your first point of contact with your potential employer - so make it count.

dr. barbers

BARBER REQUIRED

To join our team in a trendy barber shop in busy location.
Full or part time considered.
All enquiries to Darren:
darren@dr-barbers.co.uk
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If you are interested in applying for this outstanding opportunity you should submit your application, accompanied by a CV, to Christine Shiner, HR & Training Co-ordinator, SDC Builders Ltd, Limegrove House, Caxton Road, Bedford MK41 0QQ. **hr@sdc.co.uk**

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For further details and an application pack please visit: **www.bedfordschool.org.uk/support-staff-vacancies**

Completed applications should be emailed to: **hr@bedfordschool.org.uk** or posted to **Anna Smith, HR Adviser, The Bursary Bedford School, 10 Glebe Road Bedford MK40 2PL.**

The Harpur Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to an Enhanced DBS check, references and other checks.

www.bedfordschool.org.uk

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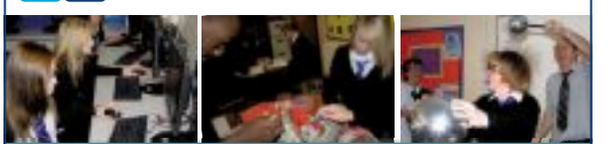

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We reserve the right to close this vacancy should we receive an overwhelming response. All candidates are advised to refer to the job description and person specification before making an application.

To request an application form / return completed forms please email personnel@shlacademy.org.

Closing Date: 24 February 2014, 8am.
Interviews: Week commencing 24 February 2014.

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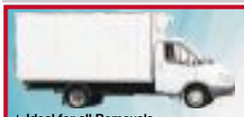

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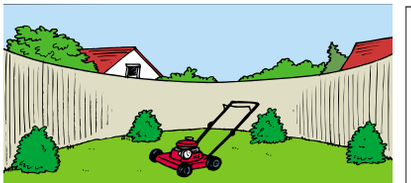

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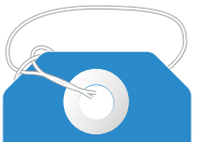

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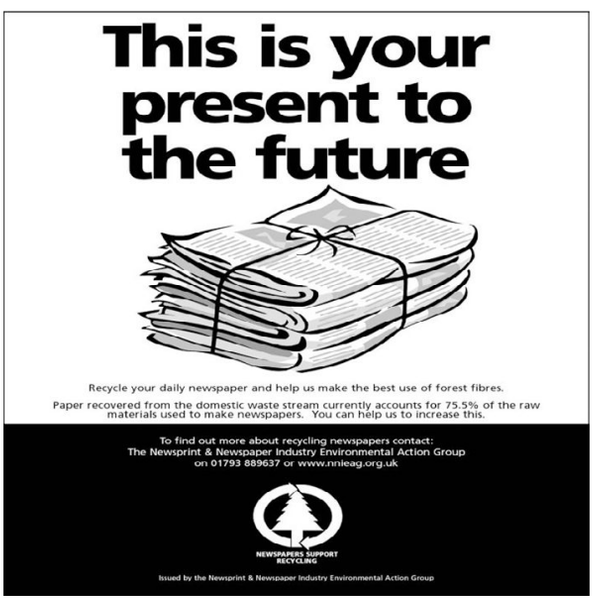

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THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 123, (2A)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes intends to dispose of open space land which forms part of Rickley Park, Shenley Road, Bletchley MK3.

Objections to the intended disposal must be made in writing and addressed to The Estates Manager, The Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes, Saxon Court, 502 Avebury Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 3HS, by no later than 19th February 2014. A plan of the land affected by the intended disposal is available for inspection at the office of the Council's Estates Manager at the above address.

Civic Offices
1 Saxon Gate East
Milton Keynes
MK3 3EJ

12th February 2014

APPLICATION TO LICENCE PREMISES FOR CIVIL CEREMONIES

Notice is given that the following application has been received for a Licence for the use of premises listed below for civil ceremonies.

A copy of the application and covering plans will be available for inspection at The Register Office Bracknell House Aylesbury Street Bletchley Milton Keynes on weekdays between 9.30am and 4.30pm from Monday 24 February 2014 until Friday 14 March 2014.

Anyone wishing to object to this application should write to the Proper Officer for Registration Civic Offices 1 Saxon Gate East Central Milton Keynes stating their objections by Monday 17 March 2014.

Name and Address of Applicant

Bracknell House, Aylesbury Street
Bletchley, Milton Keynes
MK2 2BE

John Pryor
Proper Officer for Registration

Rooms to be licensed

The Bracknell Room

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (PATRIOT DRIVE, ROOKSLEY AT ITS JUNCTION WITH THE ENTRANCE TO THE CAR PARK INTO ROOKSLEY RETAIL PARK) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 12 February 2014 made an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which is to temporarily prohibit vehicles from waiting in or proceeding along that part of Patriot Drive, Rooksley at its junction with the entrance into the car park at Rooksley Retail Park, and proceeding through the entrance to the car park itself, whilst works are carried out in relation to the upgrading of the car park. It is anticipated that the temporary closure will be in effect from Monday 17 February 2014 until Sunday 2 March 2014 for 24 hours each day. The road will be reopened sooner if works are completed and it is safe to do so.

Whilst the temporary restrictions are in effect the alternative route is via Patriot Drive and the access road which leads to the B&Q retail store, and vice versa.

There are no exemptions from the provisions of the Order except for emergency services vehicles and military vehicles being driven on operational duties.

The closure and its alternative route will be clearly signed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual.

All affected businesses will be notified of the forthcoming closure prior to works taking place.

The Order comes into operation on 17 February 2014 and will continue in force for a maximum period of 18 months or until the said works have been completed, whichever is the sooner. If the works are not completed within the maximum period stated, a further order may be made.

Any person committing a breach of the Order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as is prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Civic Offices
1 Saxon Gate East
Milton Keynes

12 February 2014

Ifty Ali
Principal Solicitor – Law & Governance

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (VENTURER GATE, MIDDLETON) (20 MPH SPEED RESTRICTION) ORDER 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 12 February 2014 made the above named Order under section 84(1) and (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (the Act). The Order, which comes into operation on 18 February 2014, affects all classes of vehicle, and its effect is to impose a 20 mph speed limit on that length of Venturer Gate, Middleton, Milton Keynes from its junction with the V10 Brickhill Street, continuing for a distance of approximately 35 metres in a north-easterly direction.

No speed limit imposed by the above Order applies to vehicles falling within regulation 3(4) of the Road Traffic Exemptions (Special Forces) (Variation and Amendment) Regulations 2011 when used in accordance with regulation 3(5) of those Regulations.

A copy of the Order, a Statement of Reasons for proposing the Order and a map showing the length of road referred to, may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 3HL at Kingston Library, Kingston Community Centre, 11 Winchester Circle, Kingston, Milton Keynes MK10 0BA and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes, MK9 3EJ. Please quote reference number BAS-P&E-8356-2273.

If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provision contained in the Order on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or on the grounds that any requirement of the Act or any instrument made under the Act has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks of the date upon which the Order was made, apply to the High Court for this purpose.

Civic Offices
Saxon Gate East
Milton Keynes
MK9 3HG

12 February 2014

Ifty Ali
Principal Solicitor – Law & Governance

Milton Keynes Council

The following applications may be inspected at the Planning, Economy and Development Department, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes. Representations, if any, to be submitted in writing to the above address within 21 days of the publication of this notice.

SECTION 73	**WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA**
13/02414/TCA	Notification of intention to undertake tree work to 1x Contoneaster, 2x Norway Maple and 1x Weeping Birch Tree at 3 West Farm Way, Emberton
14/00148/FUL	Conversion of existing dwelling into two flats at 46 Anson Road, Wolverton
14/00169/TCA	Notification of intention to crown reduce by 20% 1x Ash tree (T1) at 3 Carriers Close, Hanslope
14/00170/FUL	Change of use from office (Use Class B1) to Dog Grooming Parlour (Use Class Sui Generis) at 100A High Street, Newport Pagnell
14/00178/TPO	Tree preservation order consent to re-pollard 1x Willow tree at Bridge House, 3 Riverside, Newport Pagnell
14/00180/FUL	Change of use of single parking space at rear of property to a purpose built store at Costa Coffee, 37 High Street, Stony Stratford
14/00181/TCA	Notification of intention to crown reduce by 40% and remove lower branches to 6ft above the ground of 1 x Walnut tree at Site at Rear of 2 Pevers Lane, Weston Underwood
14/00203/TCA	Notification of intention to crown lift 9x trees within the recreation ground at Land at Recreation Ground, Common Street, Ravenstone
SECTION 67 & 73	**LISTED BUILDING WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA**
14/00163/LBC	Internal alterations to form ensuite and installation of a conservation roof light at 38 Church Street, Stony Stratford
SECTION 67	**LISTED BUILDING**
14/00139/FUL	Erection of detached dwelling at 27 Little Stocking, Shenley Brook End

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT (AS AMENDED)
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES) ORDER 2010
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 MAJOR

14/00152/FUL	Erection of 75 flats and houses, comprising revision of blocks A, E and F previously approved under application 09/01662/REM and new bowling club accommodation at Bletchley Leisure Centre, Princes Way, Bletchley
14/00207/REM	Reserved matters pursuant to outline planning permission 09/00618/OUTEIS for layout, scale, appearance and landscape for Phase 3 of Oakgrove development comprising 279 residential units, 99sqm of Use Class D1 floorspace (community facility) and associated works at Land To South And East of The River Ouzel North of Chaffron Way, Noon Layer Drive, Middleton

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED)

An appeal has been lodged by CB Richard Ellis Investors against refusal of planning application 11/00143/FUL for the partial demolition of the existing buildings at Cofferidge Close and the construction of a new food store with the reconfiguration of the car parking (amended description, amended plans and amended supporting information) at Cofferidge Close, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes, MK11 1BY.

An appeal has been lodged by CBRE Global Investors Ltd against the non-determination of planning application 13/02219/FUL for the change of use from retail (use class A1) to dental practice (use class D1) at 9 Cofferidge Close, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes, MK11 1BY.

These appeals have been joined and will be determined together at a public inquiry, which you may attend, and at the Inspector's discretion, give your views. The public inquiry will be held at The Cock Hotel, 72 High Street, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK11 1AH commencing at 10.00am on Tuesday 4th March 2014 until 14th March 2014 (excluding 10th March 2014).

For further details please contact Planning Enquiries, Development Control, Milton Keynes Council, Tel: 01908 252358.

NICK FENWICK
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR PLANNING AND TRANSPORT

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (REAR ACCESS ROADS (PARTS), REAR OF WESTERN ROAD, BETWEEN CHURCH STREET AND STRATFORD ROAD, BETWEEN CAMBRIDGE STREET AND WINDSOR STREET AND BETWEEN GREEN LANE AND VICTORIA STREET, WOLVERTON) (TEMPORARY CLOSURES) ORDER 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes intends, in not less than seven days from the date of this notice, to make an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Its effect will be to temporarily prohibit all access along parts of the following five sections of rear access roads in Wolverton:

1. that section of the rear access road running parallel to and to the rear of Cambridge Street and Windsor Street, Wolverton from its junction with Western Road to its junction with Cambridge Street (southern end). It is anticipated the temporary closure will be from Wednesday 26th February 2014 to Friday 28th February 2014, inclusive.

   The alternative route for all traffic will be to proceed via Western Road, Windsor Street and Cambridge Street and vice versa.
2. that section of the rear access road running parallel to and to the rear of Green Lane and Victoria Street, Wolverton from its junction with Stacey Avenue to its junction with the alleyway that links number 3 Green Lane and number 2 Victoria Street. It is anticipated the temporary closure will be from Monday 3rd March to Wednesday 5th March 2014, inclusive.

   The alternative route for all traffic will be to proceed via Stacey Avenue, Green Lane and the alleyway that links Green Lane and Victoria Street and vice versa.
3. that section of the rear access road running parallel to and to the rear of Church Street and Stratford Road, Wolverton, from its junction with Anson Road to its junction with Jersey Road. It is anticipated the temporary closure will be from Monday 10th March to Wednesday 12th March 2014, inclusive.

   The alternative route for all traffic will be to proceed via Anson Road, Church Street and Jersey Road and vice versa.
4. that section of the rear access road running parallel to and to the rear of Western Road, Wolverton, from a point in line with the southern common boundary wall of numbers 49 and 51 Western Road to a point in line with the southern common boundary wall of numbers 69 and 71 Western Road. It is anticipated the temporary closure will be from Monday 17th March to Wednesday 19th March 2014, inclusive.

   The alternative route for all traffic will be to proceed via Woburn Avenue, Western Road and the alleyway that links Western Road and Furze Way and vice versa.
5. that section of the rear access road running parallel to and to the rear of Church Street and Stratford Road, Wolverton, from a point in line with the rear boundary line of numbers 11 and 12 Stratford Road to a point in line with the rear boundary line of numbers 5 and 6 Stratford Road. It is anticipated the temporary closure will be from Monday 7th April to Wednesday 9th April 2014, inclusive.

   The alternative route for all traffic will be to proceed via Church Street and Radcliffe Street and vice versa.

The Council is satisfied that these temporary closures are necessary to enable works to be carried out, namely, essential works to repair leaking comm pipes and a leaking atplas, a burst water main and a leaking stop-tap. It is anticipated the temporary closures will commence from 26th February 2014 until 9th April 2014. Each rear access road will only be closed for approximately 3 days as stated above and only when indicated by the appropriate traffic signs, which will be erected in advance of any road closure.

There will be no exemptions from the provisions of this Order, except for emergency service vehicles and military vehicles on operational duties.

The proposed Order will come into operation on the 26th February 2014 and will continue in force for a maximum period of 18 months or until the said works have been completed, which ever is the sooner. If the works are not completed within the maximum period stated, a further Order may be made with the consent of the Secretary of State.

Any person committing a breach of the Order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as is prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

12th February 2014

Civic Offices
1 Saxon Gate East
Milton Keynes

Ifty Ali
Principal Solicitor – Law and Governance

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

Public Notices

BUCKINGHAM & RIVER OUZEL INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD
DRAINAGE RATES AND SPECIAL LEVIES
LAND DRAINAGE ACT 1991

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at a meeting held in Stewartby on the 4th February 2014, the Board made a drainage rate of 4.80 pence to raise their income for the year ending on the 31st March 2015, as follows:-

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5th February 2014
Mrs F C Bowler
Clerk of the Board
Vale House
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Potholes, a plague on our roads

BY DAN RAWSON

Have you hit a pothole recently? It is very likely as it is believed that there are in excess of 2 million of them on UK Roads.

It is estimated that potholes cause as many as 1 in 5 mechanical failures, costing the UK motorists a whopping £320 million every year.

The most common issue arising from pothole damage is buckled wheels, you don't even have to hit a hole that hard for it to bend your wheel out of shape. A buckled wheel can cause a number of problems to your day to day driving such as pulling the car to one side, tyre deflation and in some cases it can actually be a danger possibly causing a tyre to come off the rim.

Not everybody however, is aware that a buckled wheel can be fixed. Using a combination of techniques and processes including heat and high pressure electro-mechanics, a bent wheel can be straightened again. Even after the wheel has been straightened you may still experience poor handling as hitting one of these road craters can also affect your cars alignment

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The problem of potholes is here to stay! At current maintenance levels, the average frequency for a road to be resurfaced in England is once every 65 years and even if all authorities were given the budgets they need to fix their roads, it would take English authorities 11 years to catch up with the current backlog.

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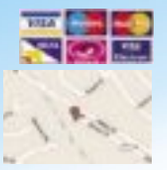

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DONS

Reeves happy to take over the set piece role from Williams

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

MK DONS midfielder Ben Reeves says taking over the mantle of set-piece taker from Shaun Williams holds no fear for him.

The former Southampton man scored from the penalty spot in Saturday's 3-0 triumph at Walsall, and while Reeves accepts that his free kicks still need improvement, he is happy with his penalty record of one out of one.

Williams had scored 11 goals this season before his January move to Millwall, but Reeves does not think about what the former centre back would have done when he steps up for a dead-ball situation.

"I don't know if set pieces are my forte yet but I'm going to try and make it my forte and one out of one is a pretty good start I think," said Reeves.

"I would like to get better at my free kicks – I had one the other day which hit the wall but I need to practice them and hopefully I can make that something I'm good at.

"There's no added pressure on me at set pieces because of what Shaun did because I think there's just normal pressure in that when you step up for a penalty, you should score so you don't think 'Oh no, Shaun would have scored this'.

"There's pressure that you know you should score anyway and you put the pressure on yourself by wanting to take the penalty."

The win will have provided a huge confidence boost to a side that hadn't scored in their three games previously, and Reeves thought the strong windy conditions favoured Dons on Saturday.

The 22-year-old said: "It was a much-needed win after the last few results and it was a good performance from the team.

"The conditions worked in our favour because when we came out for the second half the wind wasn't with them, it was a bit more swirly, but we played the conditions well in the first half.

Spot on: Ben Reeves scores a penalty against Walsall
Picture: Andy Handley

"The pitch was good for us and when we got the chance we tried to get the ball on the floor which was good."

Izale McLeod scored a brace and won the penalty Reeves scored from, and the number 10 said it was noticeable how confident the striker was in what was only his third start of the season.

"The confidence it brings everybody and Izale as well is great, especially if you've got a natural goalscorer in your team," he said.

"Everyone's happy for Izale and hopefully he can keep going.

"It's more noticeable to see when a player is confident rather than not confident."

Reeves now believes Dons can kick on from Saturday's result, and sees no reason why the stadiummk outfit cannot crash the play-offs despite the ground to make up.

"We're ninth in the table and you can't rule the play-offs out when you're in that position in the league," he said.

"I think we were ten points off Walsall before the game and we know in ourselves that we can do a lot better so I think that's a great positive."

Next up for Dons are two home fixtures against Oldham Athletic on Saturday and Preston North End on Tuesday night, but it is the former which Reeves is focused on for now.

"We've got a win under our belt going into these next two weeks, which are Saturday-Tuesday-Saturday-Tuesday, so hopefully we can now get a lot of points on the board," he said.

"We have to take it game by game because that's what the best teams in the world do.

"They don't think about games in the future but if we can get six points out of this week then that'll be massive."

BOBSLEIGH

Pickering forced out of Sochi 2014 with injury

CRAIG Pickering admits fate is conspiring to ensure he never competes at the Olympic Games again after being forced to pull out of Sochi 2014 with a back injury.

The 27-year-old appeared to be following in the footsteps of Allyn Condon as the latest track and field bobsleigh convert to compete at the Games after being selected to represent Britain last month.

But Pickering's luck has run out as he has sustained an L3-4 acute disc prolapse during the British bobsleigh team's Olympic prep camp in Koenigssee in Germany.

A similar injury prevented Pickering from even attempting to qualify for the London 2012 Summer Olympics, and he admits his Games career may be over.

"Having missed out on competing at the London 2012 Games due to a back injury I am devastated to have suffered a similar fate just days before the start of the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games," said MK Athletic Club's Pickering.

"We worked so hard to qualify the GBR2 sled for the Games and I am gutted that I won't be on the start line with Lamin, John [Baines] and Ben [Simons].

"I would like to thank all the staff at British Bobsleigh who have been incredibly helpful in making sure I've had the best support and treatment."

Pickering has not long been competing in bobsleigh, making the switch from athletics just over a year ago, and pushing John Jackson to 19th in the two-man at the 2013 World Championships.

He is already back in the UK but Gary Anderson, team leader of the bobsleigh squad for Sochi, insists he has had a key role in any success that arises in Russia.

"This is a big blow and I am personally devastated for Craig, I spoke with him just after we heard from the doctors and he was clearly very upset, he had worked so hard to get to the point of selection for Sochi," he said.

"Craig is a very professional athlete and his concern for the team illustrated that.

"Since we scouted Craig he has been a model athlete, bringing with him a large amount of big competition experience and that has helped both GBR1 and GBR2 throughout the qualification process for these Games."

Pickering would have joined an elite club of athletes to have competed at a Winter and Summer Olympics after sprinting for Britain in Beijing in 2008.

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MK Dons Head of Coaching GARY WADDOCK writes exclusively for MK News every week

SATURDAY was a really good game for us and we got the performance and the result right in our 3-0 win against Walsall.

They came into the game on the back of a run of seven games unbeaten but the lads trained very well last week.

They took that training into the match on Saturday and performed really well.

Walsall obviously had a man sent off but leading up to that we had played well.

All around it was a similar performance to the 2-0 win at Wolves in that it was another good away performance.

Walsall were reduced to 10 men and sometimes teams can get men behind the ball and make it difficult, but in fairness to them they wanted to come out and play and we were able to take advantage of that.

It's three valuable points and now we've got to go into our home fixture against Oldham Athletic on Saturday and produce that same good performance.

The penalty save helped us on Saturday and we looked really good as a back four with keeping that clean sheet.

We've got to continue that now and all the lads are pleased, especially for Izale.

He trained very well last week and the goals will give him a lot of confidence for the rest of the season now.

Patrick Bamford was scoring the goals before Izale so he has had to wait for his chance, but the opportunity was given to him on Saturday and he certainly took it.

Now if we can work like we have this week then hopefully the results will follow.

• I saw bits of the Liverpool versus Arsenal game on Saturday and for the first 20 minutes Liverpool were frightening – they really were brilliant to watch.

The result for Man United on Sunday sums up their season so far.

They were a goal down, got it back to 2-1, and with the amount of crosses you would expect them to win, but it wasn't to be.

NEXT DONS FIXTURES

SAT OLDHAM ATHLETIC (H) L1
TUES PRESTON NE (H) L1
FEB 22 BRADFORD CITY (A) L1
FEB 25 OLDHAM ATHLETIC (A) L1
MAR 1 SHEFFIELD UNITED (H) L1
MAR 8 SWINDON TOWN (A) L1
MAR 11 NOTTS COUNTY (A) L1
MAR 15 PETERBOROUGH (H) L1

LEAGUE ONE TABLE

		Pld	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Gd	Pts
1	Brentford	29	12	1	2	30	12	7	5	2	21	15	+24	63
2	Wolves	29	11	3	2	28	9	7	4	2	21	11	+29	61
3	Leyton Orient	29	8	2	3	27	12	10	4	2	33	16	+32	60
4	Preston	29	6	6	2	20	16	9	4	2	20	12	+12	55
5	Rotherham	29	5	7	3	27	25	9	2	3	24	13	+13	51
6	Peterborough	29	9	1	4	20	15	6	2	7	30	26	+9	48
7	Walsall	30	6	4	5	16	18	6	6	3	20	11	+7	46
8	Swindon	30	10	1	3	31	17	3	4	9	18	24	+8	44
9	DONS	29	7	3	4	24	17	4	3	8	20	25	+2	39
10	Port Vale	28	7	3	4	22	19	5	0	9	19	26	-4	39
11	Gillingham	31	7	4	5	23	20	4	1	10	19	33	-11	38
12	Coventry	29	7	4	3	32	29	6	4	5	25	22	+6	37
13	Bradford	29	4	8	3	25	17	3	6	5	16	20	+4	35
14	Colchester	26	5	3	5	18	17	3	7	3	17	17	+1	34
15	Oldham	30	5	4	5	17	19	4	3	9	17	23	-8	34
16	Crawley	25	5	4	4	13	15	2	6	4	16	19	-5	31
17	Tranmere	30	3	5	7	18	29	5	2	8	15	23	-19	31
18	Crewe	30	6	4	5	19	21	2	3	10	14	36	-24	31
19	Notts County	31	7	1	7	24	19	2	2	12	16	31	-10	30
20	Carlisle	29	6	2	7	23	28	2	4	8	10	23	-18	30
21	Sheff Utd	28	6	5	3	20	14	1	3	10	8	24	-10	29
22	Bristol City	30	4	6	6	22	23	1	7	6	20	26	-7	28
23	Shrewsbury	30	4	5	7	13	16	2	4	8	15	25	-13	27
24	Stevenage	27	4	2	7	15	19	3	2	9	12	26	-18	25

• Table does not include last night's matches

MKSPORT

SEND YOUR SPORTS NEWS TO scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

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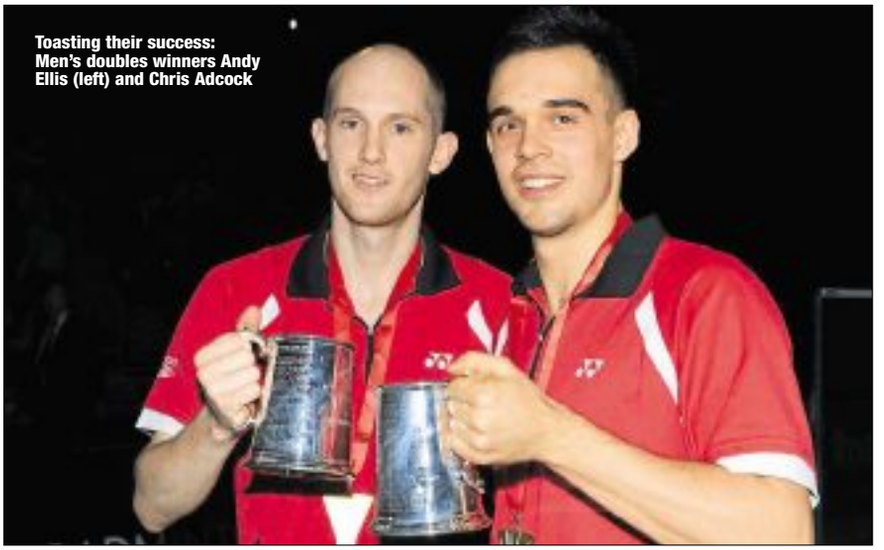
BADMINTON

Couple both double up

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk



Toasting their success: Men's doubles winners Andy Ellis (left) and Chris Adcock

CHRIS Adcock believes this is just the start of his 2014 dominance as he and his wife both left this weekend's English Badminton Championships with two titles to their name.

Heading into the tournament in Milton Keynes, the pressure was on Chris to deliver in both the men's and mixed doubles, as he was seeded first in both events.

And he didn't disappoint, beating Chris Langridge and Peter Mills 21-18 21-11 in the final of the men's doubles alongside Andy Ellis.

But Adcock wasn't done there, going on to lift the mixed doubles title alongside wife Gabby – getting the better of Langridge and Heather Olver.

Gabby also helped herself to two crowns, winning the women's doubles title with Lauren Smith.

In truth, few would have expected any different with the Adcocks having climbed to number five in the world rankings after winning the Hong Kong Open in November.

But Chris insists that turning up and winning is easier said than done, especially when everyone wants to knock you off your perch.

"We've come into the tournament with not much to gain, we've got a big target on our backs in both events," he said.

"But it's a great feeling to win the English Nationals as it always is. We'll use it as a building block to hopefully go on to bigger and better things.

"We're not looking back, we're looking forward and we've got to make sure we leave a good history and even more titles to come.

"We got our last Superseries title in Hong Kong but we're not thinking about that, we want to use that to gain more and more."

With Ellis injured last year, Chris teamed up with Marcus Ellis and just missed out on the 2013 men's doubles title, finishing second to Langridge and Mills.

But after getting his hands back on his title with his usual partner, Chris admitted it was good to be back where he belongs with a familiar face.

"It was unfortunate Andy got injured last year and thankfully Marcus stepped in and we narrowly missed out," he added.

"But it was good to be back playing with Andy, he was real good this weekend and he was quite relaxed.

"The final was quite bitty but we both came out on top quite comfortably and we played pretty well. So I'm happy with the weekend."

Chris and Gabby tied the knot in 2013 and became the first married couple to win the mixed since David and Jenny Horton in 1967.

Gabby said: "I've just found out that statistic and it's pretty cool actually.

"Obviously we really wanted to get our National title back and I'm really happy with getting the double win today."

In the men's final, top seed Ouseph defeated Coventry's England U19 champion and eighth seed Sam Parsons 21-9 21-8 as he now sets his sights on Darren Hall's 10 titles (1986-99) from 14 finals, while Sarah Walker retained her women's singles title with an 18-21 21-9 21-17 win over five-times champion Liz Cann.

Ouseph said: "I am 27 now and I would like to carry on to the Rio Olympics which would mean I could get to nine.

"But I'll just take it a year at a time."

The next tournament has come quickly for English badminton players, who are taking part in the European Men's and Women's Team Championships in Basel this week.

Tickets for the Yonex All England Open Badminton Championships at the NIA in Birmingham are available at www.allenglandbadminton.com or call the box office on 0844 444 9994.

ICE HOCKEY

Manchester await for MK

MK LIGHTNING head coach Nick Poole was left to bemoan an injury crisis which robbed him of key players in this weekend's double defeat to Telford Tigers.

Lightning were given a lesson in how times can change. When they defeated Telford 6-2 at the end of October, Tigers were rooted to the bottom of the English Premier League (EPL) with just three wins from 13 games.

Then along came the club's former stick boy turned software giant Wayne Scholes to back the Shropshire outfit with some top players and since then the team have moved up to fifth in the table with 19 victories in 42 outings.

At the weekend Lightning became their latest victims following wins against all top three EPL sides in the past month or so.

For Lightning the meetings could not have come at a worse time as Stan Lascek was out again alongside Michael Farn, Ben Russell and Connor Goode.

Beaten: Action from Lightning v Telford

Poole replaced Lascek himself and with only three fit defenceman, captain Adam Carr dropped back to the blue line.

With such a depleted squad, it was almost inevitable that Lightning would struggle, but Poole said he was delighted with the effort his charges showed.

"The results are obviously disappointing but I can't ask any more of the guys," he said.

"I thought the guys really played well and we were unlucky not to come away with the win from Sunday's game."

Lightning battled hard on Saturday and held a 2-1 lead at the second break at Coventry Skydome – only to see Tigers take advantage of their tired legs with a five goal blitz in the third session for a 6-2 win.

The two outfits met again at Telford less than 24 hours later and, for the home team at least, all seemed to be going according to plan when they established a 4-2 lead by the second break.

But they had not reckoned with a resilient Lightning, who fought back to tie at 4-4 and force overtime. In the end Tigers snatched a 5-4 victory in a penalty shoot out.

Next up for Lightning is the second leg of their EPL Cup semi-final at Manchester Phoenix on Thursday night, with the tie poised for a great game following a 5-5 draw in the first leg last Wednesday.

It is a real opportunity for Lightning to gain some silverware, according to Poole.

"We match up fairly well against Manchester this season but we've struggled a bit at their rink," he said. "We've got to overturn that hoodoo and it's going to be a really exciting game."

Fourth placed Lightning then entertain Basingstoke Bison in the EPL on Saturday before a trip to Sheffield Steeldogs on Sunday.

SPORTSSHORTS

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

OLNEY Town had a mixed week in Division One of the United Counties League.

They picked up a good 2-0 win at Northampton ON Chenecks on Tuesday night through a Lee Coulter brace. But it was a different story on Saturday when they lost 4-0 at league leaders Oadby Town.

In the semi-finals of the Spartan South Midlands Division Two Cup, Wolverton Town lost 3-2 at Kent Athletic.

HANDBALL

MK OLY Cats recorded a comfortable 44-20 win over Coventry Seconds and opened up a two-point gap at the top of Midlands Division One.

The convincing performance continued the Oly Cats' 100 per cent home league record in 2014.

With two teams likely to qualify for the end-of-season play-offs, where the winner will face the bottom team from the top flight Super 8s, the promotion race is starting to take shape.

ATHLETICS

IT WAS a great weekend for Marshall Milton Keynes Athletic Club at the UK Indoor Championships in Sheffield as Chris Clarke took gold in the 200m, with a personal best and world-leading time of 20.68.

In the women's 200m Joey Duck also set a new PB, taking the bronze medal in 23.68, while on the previous day Rachel Gibbens equalled her club pole vault record to finish sixth, clearing 4.01m.

At the Inter-Varsity Indoor Meeting at the Lee Valley complex, Devon Byrne set a new personal best of 58.83s to win the 400m and it was third in the 60m Hurdles for Adam Balderston in 8.88s.

Despite home ground advantage, the club were unable to retain their Chiltern League Cross Country title around a muddy and slippery Campbell Park circuit.

League winners Bedford & County continued their domination to win on the day, 236 points clear of MK, which was how the title race also finished.

For the senior men it was second place all round with second for the team on the day, while the senior and veteran women struggled with a lack of numbers, finishing fourth and third on the day but second overall.

KORFBALL

THE two Lakers sides battled it out when the Monday team beat the Wednesday outfit 8-5 in the first Lakers v Lakers game of the season. MK Bucks also picked up an 11-7 success over MK Lakers W in the final game between the two teams.

HOCKEY

MILTON Keynes men's hockey outfit produced a 5-3 success at home to Staines in the South Hockey League Premier Division One.

Jamie Dodd and Henry Miller both bagged a brace, while Andrew Pettefer was also on the scoresheet as MK picked up their fourth win of the season which nevertheless keeps them in 10th.

But it was a different story for Milton Keynes Ladies 1sts, who succumbed to a 3-0 defeat at West Hampstead in the South Clubs Women's Hockey League Division 3A.

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Pickering out of the Olympics
- page 78

Robbo says striker still needed

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

MK DONS manager Karl Robinson insists that the club still needs another striker despite the resurgence in form of Izale McLeod at the weekend.

The club's all-time leading goalscorer bagged a brace and won a penalty as Dons picked up an impressive 3-0 victory at play-off chasing Walsall, but with Chris Long injured for two months and now back at Everton, Robinson says he is still looking in the loan market for a number nine.

Robinson was hoping to bring a player in on Monday, but that deal fell through, and the Liverpudlian said the loan market was difficult to negotiate at the moment.

"We keep hitting these brick walls and it's frustrating," he said.

"It is so unpredictable but we still need players in to bolster our team and hopefully we can kick on from Saturday's win.

"Izale trained really well and he took that into the game so I don't think I can ask any more.

"He was sensational in how he conducted himself and I want to see him score goals against Oldham on Saturday.

"I told him that I wanted the keeper to make saves from him rather than missing the target.

"If the keeper saves it, we can deal with it, but he didn't just hit the target, he hit the back of the net twice.

"We still need a striker because when Izale gets tired or if he gets a knock we have nobody else.

"We've tried different things but I still think it's important to bring somebody in."

This week has been a busy one for Robinson, who immediately after the Walsall game travelled to the Netherlands to watch three games.

The club are trying to forge links with teams in Northern Europe as Dons look to expand their scouting operation outside of Britain.

And while Dons are not looking to bring in an immediate foreign import, Robinson has his eye on three or four players who could be snapped up in the summer.

With Dons struggling to keep up with the bigger teams in the league in terms of being able to splash the cash on players, Robinson said it was important to look at other options.

MORE DONS NEWS:
www.mkweb.co.uk/sport

Deadly double: Izale McLeod strikes for a second time at Walsall on Saturday
Picture: Andy Handley

"Being over there was really productive and I think it's a really unique market," he said.

"Andy King [recently Northampton caretaker manager] has come on board to work under [Head of recruitment] Bobby Winkelman and he has played there while [Head of coaching] Gary Waddock has played in Belgium so why not utilise these contacts?

"I've seen three games, had two meetings and I met the people at Ajax in charge of recruitment so it was one of the most productive three days I've had.

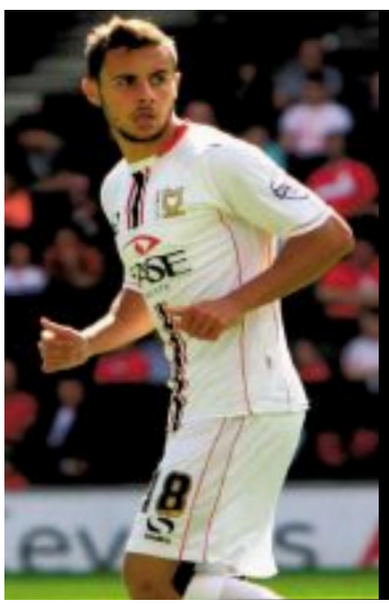
"It was certainly a busy weekend but it's all about the future of the football club so it's worthwhile putting the hours in.

"There are two or three players that I really like so it's a good start, and we're going to look at Northern Europe to see if we can bring people in. It has broadened our horizons and if we want to be a successful football club we need to have contacts in other major countries.

"We met three agents so there are a few players we can have a look at and there have got to be talented football players out there that fit our remit." Long, who signed on loan from Everton at the turn of the year, has returned to the Toffees for the time being after picking up a thigh strain which will keep him out of action for between six and seven weeks.

Two home games are next up for Dons, with Oldham Athletic the visitors on Saturday before the stadiummk outfit entertain Preston North End on Tuesday night.

Winger Dean Bowditch wasn't involved in the squad for the Walsall game, and he is rated as touch and go for Oldham.



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